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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

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Justice (Vol. 19, Iss. 6)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

MARCH 15

JUSTICE

Official Organ of The International Workers' Union

Vol. XIX, No. 6.

Jersey City, N. J., March 15, 1937

Price 10 Cents

President Dubinsky's Visit Is Big Event in St. Louis, Kansas City

Meetings, Festivities Mark 4-Day Stay — Industrial Leaders State Change of Mind.

Writing from St. Louis, headquarters of the Southwestern District of the ILGWU, Meyer Perlstein gives, in the communication printed below a graphic account of President Dubinsky's visit to the two big Missouri cities after an absence of two years.

From the minute he landed in St. Louis on Wednesday, March 3, to the hour he left Kansas City, Saturday, March 6, Dubinsky was surrounded by groups of ILGWU members and officers all eager and eager to greet him and to listen to him.

"On March 3," Perlstein writes, "there was arranged in St. Louis

a meeting of all Joint Board and executive members of the locals. Ben Gilbert, Joint Board manager, was chairman; I spoke, and then President Dubinsky delivered an impressive address.

"That same evening we had a banquet in his honor at the DeSoto Hotel. Besides all officers and union leaders there were present also a group of manufacturers representing the associated garment industry of St. Louis, with whom we have contractual relations, members and leaders of the Central Labor Union of St. Louis, etc."

(Continued on Page 8)

GEB Offers \$5,000 To Track Down Katovsky Assaulters

Cleveland Manager Assaulted by Hooligans Near Home

Vice-President Abraham W. Katovsky, manager of the Cleveland Joint Board of the ILGWU, was badly beaten just before midnight on March 5 by two hoodlums who attacked him in front of his home. Katovsky had just returned from a conference downtown when he was set upon by the bandits. He suffered lacerations of the skull and a broken ankle. He was taken to St. Luke's hospital where he is now slowly recovering from shock and injury.

(Continued on Page 3)

ILGWU Subscribes \$100,000 to N.Y. 1939 World's Fair

N. Y. Locals and General Office Pledge to Raise Sum for Bond Purchase

Responding to pleas for cooperation by Grover A. Whalen, chairman of the New York World's Fair of 1939, and by Matthew Wall, chairman of the Advisory Committee on Labor Relations of the Fair, the general managers of all ILGWU locals of Greater New York and the leaders of the Cloak and Dress Joint Boards, at a special meeting on March 11, at 2 West 16th Street, voted to purchase

\$100,000 worth of the bonds issued by the Fair Corporation. The meeting was presided over by President David Dubinsky.

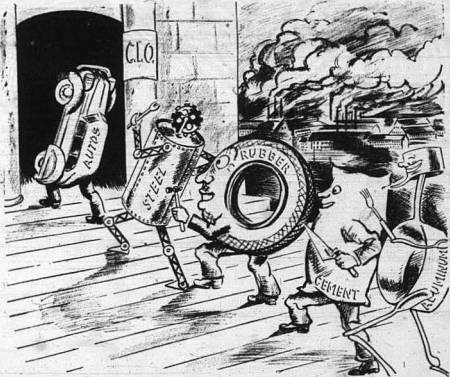
In a public statement issued after the meeting, to clarify the purpose of this decision, President Dubinsky said as follows:

"We are happy for this opportunity to take part in a great communal undertaking which will embody before the world the spirit, the magnitude and the enterprise of our metropolis—the forthcoming New York World Fair of 1939."

"We welcome the fact that the

(Continued on page 2)

AN EPISODE FROM THE MARCH OF TIME



New York Cloak Board Appoints Contract Renewal Negotiators

Dubinsky, Nagler Head, Conference — Contract Changes To Be Sought

The New York Board of Directors of the New York Cloak Joint Board, at a meeting on March 3, designated a conference committee to negotiate renewal of collective contracts with the coat and suit employers' associations in the New York market.

Heading the negotiators are President David Dubinsky and General Manager Isidor S. Nagler. Others are: all managers of the cloak locals, the district managers, and the leading officers of the Joint Board.

Vice-President Nagler was instructed to arrange for the date of the first meeting with the employers' groups. The two-year contracts in the industry expire on June 1, and in conformity with provisions, the Union has notified the associations three months in advance that it will ask for changes in the pacts. The associations did likewise.

Another Kansas City Cotton Dress Firm Settles

Rapidly following through the union campaign in Kansas City, the Joint Board of that city on March 5 succeeded in signing up another cotton dress factory, N. Caplan Co., without resorting to a strike.

Meyer Perlstein wired that the firm signed a full union contract guaranteeing "code" wages and hours and a union shop.

Sheba-Ann Dallas Dress Strike Still Rages

Police Support of Firm Arouses Citizens

The strike at the Sheba-Ann Dress Co. of Dallas, Tex., called a month ago to win union work-terms and collective bargaining, still continues.

The firm is an active member of the anti-union Dallas dress employers' group which battled the ILGWU in 1935. Local 121, of Dallas, is maintaining a strong picket line around the shop.

John G. Hadravsky, ILGWU Dallas manager, declared that the firm is attempting to fill the shop by offering wages of 51c an hour for a 44-hour week though it makes dresses which are paid everywhere at the rate of \$18.30 a week for a 44-hour week.

Tri-State Dress Strike Won In Memphis

New ILGWU Group Gains Label Shop

A spectacular garment strike, the first in Memphis, Tenn., history, broke out on the morning of March 8, when the 154 girls employed by

the Tri-State Mfg. Co., a cotton dress factory, walked out to compel the firm to reinstate 14 Union members discharged the week before.

The strike resulted in complete victory after four days. Hours were reduced from 52 to 48, code wages were granted, and a label agreement signed. Meyer Perlstein conducted negotiations.

Local 247, Memphis, was organized in February. (See Picture on page 3)

N. Y. Welcomes Home Palestine Labor Delegates

BIG HIPPODROME MEETING RECEIVES ENTHUSIASTIC REPORTS OF NAGLER, BRESLAW, PERLMUTTER

The American Labor Delegation to Palestine, among whom there were three well-known leaders of the ILGWU—Vice-Presidents Isidore Nagler, Joseph Breslaw and Samuel Perlmutter, was given an enthusiastic reception at a "Welcome-Home" meeting at the New York Hippodrome on March 12, in the evening.

Mayor Fiorello La Guardia, who could not attend as he was away in Washington, was represented by Judge Fred L. Hackenberg, who greeted the delegation in the Mayor's name. Alexander Kahn presided.

Max Raskinsky, one of the Labor Delegates, spoke in rapturous terms of the marvelous achievements of the trade union of Palestine which comprise 25 per cent of the entire population of the territory, of the renaissance of Jewish life in free environs devoid of persecution and terror, and called upon all Jewish workers to give their unqualified support to the Palestine labor organization.

Vice-President Joseph Breslaw, manager of Pressers' Union, Local 35, spoke of the life of the Jewish settlers in factories and fields in the Holy Land, of their marvelous morale, idealism, and splendid capacity for self-government under the guidance of "Histradruth," the central body of Jewish labor in Palestine.

Vice-President Samuel Perlmutter, manager of Cutters' Union, Local 10, dwelt on the cooperatives in Palestine, in agriculture and industry, and brought out the point that at a great meeting in Haifa, arranged in honor of the Labor Delegation, there were present many Arab workers. The interests of the Arab workers, Perlmutter declared, are identical with the interests of the Jewish workers in Palestine and time will, in the not distant future, bear out this truth. He spoke in terms of unbounded admiration of the work already achieved by the legions of Jewish labor in that country.

Isidore Nagler, general manager of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board, made a strong impression by citing a mass of facts and figures concerning the achievements of the "National Fund" in settling the immigrant workers on land. "The idea behind the National Fund," Nagler said, "is thoroughly collectivistic. The land belongs to the entire people and is not the subject of private barter or speculation." Laborers Palestine, he con-

Movement Begun To Organize Nell Donnelly Firm in Kansas City

Dubinsky Says He Will Deal With Ex-Senator Reed As A Maker of Dresses.

David Dubinsky, president of the ILGWU, on Saturday, March 6, officially launched a movement to organize the Donnelly Garment Company, controlled by Mrs. Nelson A. Reed.

Dubinsky, speaking before more than 700 members of the Union in Kansas City, Mo., in the Little Theatre of the Municipal Auditorium, emphasized the need for organizing all Kansas City garment factories, including the Donnelly concern.

"Mr. Reed said many harsh things about me during the recent political campaign," Dubinsky said, "but all that is past and I shall deal with him only as a maker of dresses. He shall be treated with courtesy. He shall be organized to organize his workers, regardless of the stand he takes."

Refers To Campaign

Discussing the report that employees of the Donnelly Company signed a pledge of allegiance to their employers, Dubinsky said:

"In the presidential campaign Mr. Reed called me a Bolshevik and said many other uncompromising things about me. You would imagine that I had long whistles, a pocket crammed with bombs and did nothing who but have a red flag."

"The Bolshevik charge is old stuff. Non-union employers always call their employees such names when they ask for a raise in pay."

Defends Court Plan

Dubinsky also defended the President's plan for reorganizing the United States Supreme Court, asserting the opponents were the same group who opposed Roosevelt's reelection.

"The election November 3 should be considered a mandate by the people for the changes proposed by Mr. Roosevelt since they voted for him knowing that he would do

thus, has brought honor to the Jewish people; it has given irrefutable proof that workers can build and maintain a true commonwealth of producers. "There was a time when the term 'peasant' was meant as a slight; these Jewish agricultural laborers in the Holy Land have conferred distinction and honor upon it," he concluded.

Dallas Striker Showing Fighting Spirit



Arresting a Sheba-Ann Dressmaker in Front of Texas City Strike-Bound Dress Factory

whatever was possible to help them."

Dubinsky said that Reed would receive a polite letter within a few days inviting him to confer with Kansas City labor leaders about signing a union contract.

"If he refuses to meet with us, we shall start our campaign," President Dubinsky said. "It may take a long time to organize the Donnelly company plant, but we will win out in the end as the 240,000 members of our organization are behind us."

Installs Officers

At the conclusion of the meeting President Dubinsky installed officers in the new local Union which was chartered at the Stern-Slegman-Prins Company when that concern signed a Union contract.

The officers are Omar Rose, president; Elbert Foster, vice-president; Ann Horrie, secretary-treasurer, and Joe Easton, sergeant-at-arms.

Turner Dress, Cleveland, Settled After Strike

The Turner Dress Mfg. Co., making cotton dresses and aprons, where a strike was in progress since March 2, provoked by a pay-cut, was settled on March 5.

The workers charged that earnings ranged as low as \$5 to \$12 a week and that the women worked as much as 45 and 50 hours. The Union cited the pay of one cutter as being 27 cents for two days.

The agreement provides for a 20 per cent increase in wages and a closed union shop. The workers were all reinstated. Louis Fink negotiated the settlement.

GEB Offers \$5,000 To Track Down Katovsky Assailants

(Continued From Page 1)

At a special meeting, on March 11, in New York City, the General Executive Board of the ILGWU voted to offer a reward of \$5,000 to anyone who would furnish information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons guilty of the murderous attack on Vice-President Katovsky. The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will spare no effort in tracking down his assailants and in riding the labor movement of the rascals who are preying upon it.

DAVID DUBINSKY, President.

ILGWU Subscribes \$100,000 To World Fair

(Continued From Page 1)

creators and planners of the New York World Fair have had the wisdom of forming a representative Labor Advisory Committee to stimulate labor interest and labor cooperation in this gigantic enterprise. The millions of wage earners of New York are a legitimate and an integral part of its mighty life and their well-being is inseparably bound up with the welfare, dignity and glory of this community.

"In subscribing \$100,000 to the bond issue of the World Fair in behalf of the 150,000 members of the ILGWU living within the boundaries of New York, we are once again reaffirming our traditional policy of cooperating with all constructive elements in civic life to enhance the economic, industrial and social resources of our city and to make it thereby a happier place to live in."

Five Knitwear Mills Settle With Joint Council

Supreme Braid Strike Finally Won by Union

After a strike lasting five months, conducted by the Joint Council of Knitgoods Workers' Union in the plant of the Supreme Braid & Trimming Co., 125 West 23rd Street, New York, a settlement was reached early in March.

A closed shop, wage increases and other union terms were secured. The Joint Council was also successful in settling conflicts with the Manhattan Knitting Co., the Triboro Knitting Mills, both of New York, and with Furson Knitting Mills, of Brooklyn.

Another victory was gained at the Buffalo Knitting Mills, Brooklyn, after 4 years of opposition. Full union conditions were granted. Strikes are still on against Public Knitting Mills, Webster Mills and Block Mills in New York and Madison Knitting Mills in Brooklyn.

Labor Delegates Return From Survey in Palestine



Large Group of ILGWU Greet Vice-Presidents Nagler, Breslaw and Perlmutter Upon Return From Holy Land Mission to Investigate Conditions of Life and Labor in That Country.

4,000 Cheer Dubinsky in Chicago As Cotton Wear Drive is Pledged

New Vigor To Unionize All Shops Will Be Poured Into Campaign, ILGWU President Declares

Before an audience of 4,000 cloakmakers, dressmakers and cotton wear workers, which filled to overflowing the big Ashland Boulevard Auditorium, President David Dubinsky announced the intensification of the nation-wide campaign to organize every cotton garment factory making women's and child dress apparel throughout the width and breadth of the land.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, President Dubinsky told the cheering multitude in the Chicago auditorium, has already made substantial headway in bringing the cotton garment industry under improved wage and hour conditions. A number of leading cotton garment firms have signed union agreements in the past year and a half, and some of them have even adopted the ILGWU label to identify production under union standards.

Dubinsky spoke at length of recent phases and developments in the ILGWU and drew an analogy between its present status and earlier struggles. The women's garment industry, he emphasized, is by this time nearly completely organized save for the thousands that are still being exploited in the cotton garment shops. The ILGWU will not rest and will not spare resources until this organizational gap is closed and the unprotected cotton garment workers are accorded human rights in the factories and are enabled to earn a better living.

Applause greeted Dubinsky as he spoke of the recent strikes and victorious settlements made by the ILGWU in Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago, Milwaukee, and the various Eastern States, and throughout Illinois and Ohio. He exhorted the dressmakers and the cloakmakers belonging to the older organiza-

tional units of the ILGWU in Chicago to lend every aid to the cotton garment workers in the forthcoming phases of the campaign on the picket line and by other material means of cooperation.

Vice-President Morris Halls presided at the meeting.

Boston Dressmakers Busy for April 16 Night

On the night of the day among the dressmakers of Boston, members of Local 44, to the big event scheduled for April 16, Rose Simkin, secretary of the arrangements committee, writes.

The annual dance of the local will take place on that night at Hotel Bradford. The membership of the Boston ILGWU locals is expected to turn out in full force for the affair. A program filling every minute of the evening has been carefully provided.

The local is going ahead with an educational routine, containing classes and lectures, which is attracting weekly more and more members. Every important current event is being discussed.

Rose Schneiderman State Labor Secretary

Miss Rose Schneiderman, a member and former organizer of the United Hatlers', Cap and Military Workers' International Union, was designated on March 3 by Labor Commissioner Elmer F. Andrews as secretary of the State Department of Labor, succeeding Mrs. Maud O'Farrell Swartz, deceased. The position carries a \$4,500 salary.

Active in organized labor since she organized a branch of the haters in 1903, Miss Schneiderman is president of the New York Women's Trade Union League, a former member of the NRA Labor Advisory Board and has been active in the campaign for a minimum wage law for women and the child labor amendment.

Locals Notified To Submit Convention Resolutions in Advance

In following out a constitutional provision adopted for the sake of facilitating procedure of business at conventions, the General Office notified early this month all locals and subdivisions to submit all proposals and resolutions to be acted upon at the forthcoming convention at Atlantic City to President Dubinsky in advance.

No resolution will be accepted later than the second day of the convention, Section 12, Article 2, governing this matter reads:

All proposals or resolutions to be acted upon at any convention shall be submitted and filed with the General President in advance and not later than the second day of the convention. No proposal or resolution shall be acted upon at any convention unless submitted and filed with the delegates assembled. However, the General Secretary-Treasurer, in leaving the call for the election of delegates, shall call the attention of each Local Union, Joint Board and District Council.

Two Minneapolis Firms in ILGWU Pacts

Two coat and suit houses here signed agreements early in March with the ILGWU in the Twin Cities and negotiations are continuing with a third firm, Michael Finkelstein, district manager of the Twin Cities Joint Board of the Union, announced.

Under the new agreements with Paramount Cloak Co. and Richcraft Cloak Co., workers on a piece-rate basis secure a 5 per cent increase in pay, while time workers get in creases ranging from 5 to 14 per cent. The agreements include an arbitration clause and call for use of the Recovery Board label.

The agreements were negotiated without any loss of time to workers.

The Union expects to conclude an agreement soon with the new firm of Ben Solomon Cloak Co.

Memphis Dress Striker Halts A Scab



Tri-State Dress Co. Operators, Who Just Won Their Fight, Give Good Account of Themselves in Scuffle With Strikemakers.

Boston, Worcester Cloak People Win Wage Adjustments

Though the cloak agreement in Boston will not expire until July 1, 1938, the Joint Board of that city successfully negotiated last week an increase in wages.

"This is the first time a wage rise, without recourse to strike, has been effected here," Vice-President Philip Kramer, manager of the Joint Board, writes from Boston, "as contrasted with past experience when the slightest request for change would meet a wall of opposition, strikes and losses in wages and business."

The Joint Board of the employers, after a conference on March 4, reached the following tentative terms for the adjustment of wages: An immediate five per cent increase for those working for wages below the minimum scale to be brought up to the scale. All other workers are to get an increase, the amount and the date of effect to be left to arbitration.

Worcester Cloak Shops Fall in Line

A stoppage lasting a day and a half was sufficient to convince the group of cloak manufacturers of Worcester, Mass., to agree to a wage increase and to register with the National Coat and Suit Industry Recovery Board.

The Worcester cloakmakers, all of them members of Local 73, ILGWU, have had their wages slashed since the NRA died and they were badly in need of a boost in earnings. When Vice-President Kramer, therefore, called a meeting of the Worcester workers for March 1, not a single ILGWU member failed to appear. Even the workers in the two recently organized dress factories turned out en masse.

The walkout resulted in the employers, signing "certificates of compliance" with the Coat and Suit Recovery Board and granting wage rates averaging 16 per cent for all crafts. All other terms were strictly union. At a ratification meeting on Saturday morning, March 6,

these terms were joyfully endorsed. Saul C. Hamburger, in charge of the Boston office of the Recovery Board, was present during the Boston negotiations.

SOCIAL SECURITY RECORD BOOKS ON SALE AT ALL LOCALS

Frederick F. Unbezy, executive secretary of the International, announces that the General Office has published a handy vest-pocket size booklet which in substance is a diary for earnings and Social Security tax contributions for a period of eleven years, from January, 1937, to December, 1947.

It is a handy little entry book which will enable Union members to keep account of their earnings from month to month and will enable them, from indications of a chart incorporated in the booklet, to know how much social insurance they will be entitled to when they reach the benefit age.

Instructions for keeping record of earnings are also enclosed in the booklet together with extracts from the Social Security Act. Places for ledger number of affiliated union member as well as for the account number under the Social Security Act are also provided for in the booklet.

These booklets are on sale at all International Ladies' Garment Workers' locals all over the country.

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DAVID LUDENKIN, President and General Secretary-Treasurer MAX D. DANIEL, Editor

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Vol. XIX, No. 6, March 15, 1937

Wisconsin's First Lady Sews in First ILGWU Tag



In the "Little International"

By Harry Wender, V.P.
General Manager, Eastern Out-
Town Department

Dress Season Now On

The dress manufacturing season is now on in full swing and though it leaves something to be desired in the matter of increased employment for the workers in some of our crafts, nevertheless, the increased amount of work has done a great deal to reduce the tension which prevailed for a long time.

The best indication of this change is shown by the drop of complaints by workers alleging job discrimination against their shops. Such complaints, whether founded or unfounded, always indicate scarcity of work in the shop and the pressure of unemployment. These complaints, so plentiful in the last few months, have now given way to a sharp rise in the requests for price settlements. Under the collective agreement, workers may work on unsettled garments for seven days and jobbers very often send out styles to be worked on before the prices are settled.

A close watch is kept by our department to guarantee that the seven-day period of grace is not abused by the jobber, to evade price settlements. All chairladies are instructed that as soon as a new style comes into the shop and there is no price-settlement sheet for the number, to immediately notify the office. An immediate response is then put in to the Out-of-Town Department for a price settlement. The number of such requests for settlements in the last few weeks proves that the workers in the out-of-town territory obey our instructions and are willing to work on unsettled garments.

Convention Big Issue Right Now

The main interest among the "out-of-town" workers at the present time is our coming International Convention. Before the last convention in 1934, almost all of the members now affiliated to the Eastern Out-of-Town Department were union members and the convention of our International could not mean very much to them. They hardly had any conception of what a trade union was, let alone the significance of this highest legislative body in our International, the convention.

To many of them, the Union was some outside agency which improved their conditions, gave them more wages, reduced their hours of work, etc. Very few had any knowledge of how the Union is conducted, how our general officers are elected and who shapes the policies of our organization. However, three years of union activity and education have had their effect, and today there is an intense interest in the coming convention. As soon as the call to elect delegates went out from the General Office, meetings were called of the shop units, and the Union officers once again explained the significance of the convention to a membership that is now able to grasp the full importance of their votes because of their new increased experiences.

The conventions were made, arrangements concluded for the various examining committees to probe the candidates, and final elections will be held during the month of March. In such localities where individual shops are far removed from examinal centers and it is therefore, impossible to arrange one big mass meeting of all the members of one local, our representatives are holding shop meetings and the same privileges are accorded to the members of the individual shops to exercise their franchise at the shop meetings.

In order to have a rep rank and

Jerseyites Take Time Out for Some Good Fun



Active Spirits of Paterson Local 161 Foregather for Dinner-Dance at Arcola Inn — Out-of-Town Department Leaders Among Guests

file delegation, the employed officers of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department have agreed to refrain from standing as candidates to the convention. Where there are a number of officers, only one may accept as a candidate.

"Mopping Up" And "Pioneering"

The organization activities of our department are still in full swing. A distinction must be drawn between the organization activities in silk dresses and the miscellaneous trades which include underwear, children's dresses, etc. Our organization activities in silk dresses are mainly in the nature of "mopping up" or cleaning up a shop here and there. For example, a union contractor may move to another local and arrangements may have to be made to relocate the shop. As another contractor may go out of business, a new contractor may buy the name and attempt to operate an "open" shop. Since February 1, we have organized four shops of this type.

Aside from this type of organization activity, the main bulk of our work is pioneering work among the workers in the miscellaneous trades, and "Justice" readers who have followed the progress of our campaign since last July are aware of what headway has been made. Since February 1 of this year, we have organized approximately 700 workers in 15 shops, among them underwear, blouse and children's dress houses.

Typical of this activity was our effort to secure a collective agreement for the workers of the Mannheim Dress Co. of Elizabeth, N. J. This firm had been a non-union shop for about fifteen years and had fought and evaded every attempt to establish humane conditions for its workers, not alone by unions but by the Federal Government as well. During the NRA they discharged large numbers of their workers for engaging in union activities. In November, 1935, in a vain attempt to prevent its workers from responding to the call of the Union, in typical New Jersey fashion, they obtained a sweeping injunction that deprived the workers of all of their constitutional civil liberties.

However, after a year of expensive litigation, this injunction was finally dissolved. Our activities to organize the shop were renewed. Within a short period, the local organization committee, drawn from the rank and file of local union members under the leadership of Organizer Peter DeLoefen, was able to call the workers of Mannheim Dress on strike. So effective was the picketing that not one of the six trucking concerns who deliver and take work out of the plant was able even to enter the factory yard. During the strike, about 400 of our Elizabeth members voluntarily called a stoppage for one afternoon and joined the 775 strikers of the

Mannheim shop on the picket line. The firm was then convinced that the Union and their strikers meant business. Negotiations were started and a union agreement signed.

We also concluded an agreement with the Rose Dress Co. of 726 Broadway, Elizabeth, employing about 60 workers.

Two Undergarment Fights

Another outstanding example of our activities in the territory under our jurisdiction is the present strike of 110 underwear workers employed by the Andrey Lingerie Co. For months our local organizers under the direction of Organizer Sirius were carefully laying the groundwork for a strike. The workers were finally ready for a fight. We had to delay calling the strike for various reasons, while the employer, aware of what was going on, was in a perpetual state of "sweat." Any movement incident would immediately result in a call for the police, until even the New Jersey police became tired of being bothered by them. Finally, on Thursday, March 4, the strike was called and 110 workers paraded out of the shop. The employers requested a conference with the Union the same day, and an agreement calling for substantial improvements in the working conditions of the workers is expected soon.

The present activities are being conducted to organize the workers of the Sterling Corset Co. of Belmar, N. J. A committee composed exclusively of Sterling workers, whose names cannot be made public because the employer, Miss Nauman, has publicly declared that she would discharge them if she knew who they were, has undertaken to publicize the conditions under which they work and their desire for unionization. The committee issued a circular which exploded the claim of the Sterling

Corset Co. that the company maintains perfect working conditions, by comparing their working standards with the recognized union standards and emphasizing their desire to be self respecting citizens who did not want to burden the community with additional relief cases.

The answer of Miss Nauman in the Astory Park Press of February 27 was that unless all union activity were stopped immediately, she would move the plant out of the borough. Complaining that seven years ago she had begun with a small factory of 20 machines and through her own diligence had expanded the factory to the point where she now had 120 machines, she attributed this expansion to her own genius and ability. The committee, however, pointed out in a subsequent reply that she had failed to add that the increase of 100 machines could largely be attributed to the unfair competition which she was able to exercise in the market because of the sweat-shop wages she was paying.

Active In Civil Life

Aside from the purely organizational activities of our various locals, the local organizations are encouraged to take an active part in the civic life of their various communities. When Gov. Hoffman of New Jersey gave out his pre-emptive statement attacking all unions under the guise of the "illegality" of the sit-down strike, our New Jersey locals immediately addressed telegrams of protest to the Governor. In Connecticut, District Manager Schab has sent out letters to every Congressman and U. S. Senator of Connecticut, urging their support of President Roosevelt's proposal for the reorganization of the judiciary.

Simultaneously, when the Connecticut authorities forcibly ejected the sit-down strike employees of the

the Electric Bus Co. of Groton, Manager Schab addressed a demand to the State Congressional representatives that an investigation of the labor policy of this company be inaugurated. Congressman William M. Citron, according to his request, replied that he would help inaugurate such an investigation.

Most of our district organizations and organized centers "out-of-town" are taking advantage of the Winter season to organize dances, parties and other affairs designed to bring the local union members into closer contact with one another under union auspices. The Paterson Local 161, under the leadership of Local Officer Brunstein, held a dinner-dance Friday evening, February 26. Many of the officers from the home office and other districts were their guests for the evening. Everyone agreed that the affair was a huge success.

Local 144, Newark, under the membership of C. Crivello, ran their dance on March 5, and attention has been made for dates and affairs for the members of all other locals during the next few weeks.

Local 32 To Pick Officers

In accordance with a recent decision of the Executive Board of Local 32, examinations for officers of the Union, Executive Board members, and delegates to the coming convention of the ILGWU are to be made from the floor of a general membership meeting.

This meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 16, immediately after work, at Heston Hall, 210 E. 34th Street, N.Y.C. A report on present conditions in the trade will also be made at that time.

All members of the Corset and Undergarment Workers' Union are urged to attend this important meeting, so that they may have a voice in nominating for office those whom they wish to represent them for the next two years.

Joseph Kessler, Local 20 Secretary, Joins ILGWU Staff

Joseph Kessler, for several years secretary of Waterproof Garment Workers' Union, Local 20, has resigned his post and joined the staff of the ILGWU in Pennsylvania. He was assigned to the Cation Garment Department and will work under the direction of Vice-President Rosenberg.

Kessler became secretary of the rump-out workers' union during the worst period of the depression, but succeeded through hard work and unflinching attention to his business to keep it numerically and materially intact. He was also helpful in organizing rump-out workers in Boston and Philadelphia.

Morris Rapoport to succeed Brother Kessler as secretary of Local 20.

Bridgeport, Local 152, Basketball Team Out Front



NEW YORK DRESS MAKERS SECTION

NEWS OF THE DRESS JOINT BOARD AND AFFILIATED LOCALS

GUILTY JOBBER PAYS \$20,000 MORE

<p>THE DRESS JOINT BOARD HAS THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIP LIST FOR THE YEAR 1936-1937</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>NAME</th> <th>ADDRESS</th> <th>DATE</th> <th>AMOUNT</th> </tr> <tr> <td>KAPLAN & ELIAS</td> <td>463 SEVENTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N.Y.</td> <td>March 1, 1937</td> <td>\$20,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"> <p>KAPLAN & ELIAS \$20,000 and OODTS</p> </td> </tr> </table>		NAME	ADDRESS	DATE	AMOUNT	KAPLAN & ELIAS	463 SEVENTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N.Y.	March 1, 1937	\$20,000.00	<p>KAPLAN & ELIAS \$20,000 and OODTS</p>				<p>80 No. 8219</p> <p>NEW YORK, March 1, 1937</p> <p>PAID TO THE ORDER OF Educational Strike Prevention Bureau Grand Treasurer - Benjamin H. Harn</p> <p>\$20,000.00</p> <p>KAPLAN & ELIAS DOLLARS</p> <p><i>Matth. Hoff</i> <i>Sam. Hoff</i></p>
NAME	ADDRESS	DATE	AMOUNT											
KAPLAN & ELIAS	463 SEVENTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N.Y.	March 1, 1937	\$20,000.00											
<p>KAPLAN & ELIAS \$20,000 and OODTS</p>														

Bank of the Manhattan Company
BROADWAY AT 40TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

Brings Kaplan & Elias Total for Underpayments and Other Violations to \$54,100. Total Union Collections from Guilty Firms Paid \$600,000. Hochman Announces Violation Prevention Bureau.

Following a prolonged investigation and a three-day trial before impartial Chairman Harry Uviller during which General Manager Hochman presented the case for the Union, Kaplan & Elias, 463 Seventh Avenue, paid \$20,000 in settlement of Union claims for underpayments to the workers and other violations of the collective agreements.

This payment brings the total collected by the Union post the \$34,100 mark. Kaplan & Elias have paid a total of \$54,100.

Announcement of the settlement was accompanied by a statement from General Manager Hochman that the Union would organize a Violation Prevention Bureau to control a group of about 15 persistent jobber violators in the cheaper price range. The new bureau, he said, would be staffed with expert accountants to make monthly checks on the "repenters" so that violations could be stopped in the bud before they involved substantial amounts.

NEW OFFICE FOR BORO PARK

The Boro Park office of the Dress Joint Board has moved to 2519 130th Street, Brooklyn, corner 25th Street, Brooklyn. Members will find the new quarters much larger and more convenient. The phone number remains unchanged. It is still WInslow 5400.

SILVER FOR MEDWED

When it came to selecting a gift for their shop chairman, Sam Medwed, the workers of the La Strada Annex, 711 West 26th Street, selected, nevertheless, something very useful that Brother Medwed can use in his home. After all, being a shop chairman takes up a lot of time and Sam's wife should be able to enjoy the gift too.

Three-Day Hearing

The present case grew out of investigations showing that Kaplan & Elias had been underpaying its workers and violating the agreement in shops at Wausauet, R. I. and Harrisburg, Pa. There were additional charges that a number of contractors producing garments for Kaplan & Elias had been underpaying their workers. The major complaints of the Union were brought before Mr. Uviller, February 18. The trial continued on February 24 and 25 before the \$20,000 settlement was reached. Earlier in the month there had been a \$2,199 award against Kaplan & Elias.

In commenting on the case, Brother Hochman said: "Accumulated violations of the agreement and subsequent settlements are not in substantial amounts are not in my liking. I would rather see compliance with the terms of the agreement. Any investigation of the frequency of agreement violations with failure to pay agreed on rates accompanied by the falsification of books to cover up the violations shows that there are about 15 jobbers in the cheaper end that persistently attempt to cheat their workers, creating unfair competition and giving the entire industry a bad name.

The shop that group, the Union is preparing to establish a special department staffed with expert accountants who will keep close tabs on the persistent violators. The department will be known as the Violation Prevention Bureau. It will check up on the systematic violators at least once a month and in that way will try to stop violations or at least nip them in the bud before substantial amounts are involved."

SHOP THANKS LO GIUDICE

Workers in the Charming Dress Shop, 139 West 26th Street, have presented Alexander La Giudice with a wrist watch and other gifts as a testimonial of their gratitude for his loyal and devoted service as shop chairman for the last two years.

The Strip of "Bacon" The Union Brought Home

New "22" Courses Feature Current History and Issues

Sit-Down Strike And Supreme Court On Live Program

With two new and exceedingly interesting courses, one on the Constitution and the Supreme Court and the other on the history and problems of strike strategy, the Spring term of Local 22 Educational Department is getting under way with a record-breaking advance registration.

The course on the Supreme Court will be given by David M. Bernberg. The Strike Strategy course which will analyze the Sit-Down Strike and its relation to other forms of strike developed in the past will be given by George F. Miles.

Register Immediately

Will Heberg, educational director, urges all members to register immediately either by coming to Room 508, Joint Board headquarters, or using the coupon printed

in this issue of "Justice."

The complete list of courses is given in the coupon. As usual, it includes classes in Social Science, History, Labor Problems, Literature, Psychology, Public Speaking, Economics and English. The section schools in the Bronx, Harlem and Brownsville will be given as usual.

Popular as ever, the Current Events Forum will be run in the school auditorium on the 4th floor of the Joint Board building every Thursday evening at 8 P.M. with outstanding speakers representing all sections of labor and liberal opinion.

Cultural Activities

The Bernberg series will be given Mondays at 6 P.M. The Strike Strategy course will come on Tuesdays at 4 P.M. Otto K. Hochman's new course in Psychology is scheduled for Wednesdays at 6 P.M. The other courses come at convenient times. Full information can be obtained from the Educational Department of Local 22.

Apart from the formal educational activities a full program of cultural, sports and social activities is open to the membership. In the cultural group are Mandolin classes and orchestra, choral groups, dance groups and dramatic groups. For those interested in sport there are basketball, soccer, handball, tennis, swimming, baseball, gym-work, calisthenics. The girls' gym and swimming groups meet Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Monday and Wednesdays are reserved for the men.

The important thing is to take advantage of the rich educational and cultural fare offered by the Educational Department by registering immediately. Cut out and return the coupon now.

RUTH--From Russia



Russia Wasn't the Land of the Soviets When Ruth Came to This Country Seeking Freedom and Democracy. She Found A Knout More Tolerant Than the Country of the Czar with His Knout, Cossacks and Iron-Handed Repression. But Ruth Found, Even in Free America, the Prejudices of Race, Color and Creed. The International and the Dressmakers' Union Were A Haven From Those Prejudices. Today, Ruth Looks Forward to the Day When Workers Everywhere Will Recognize That They Are Brothers and Fight Shoulder to Shoulder for A World Free of Prejudice, War and Poverty.

'Twenty-two' Elections Scheduled for March 18

12 Polling Places Open 8 A.M. to 7 P.M. In Various Sections

All members of Local 22 are urged to let nothing stand in the way of their voting in the local elections which will be held Thursday, March 18.

The officers to be elected follow: Local Management: 23 Executive Board Members; 21 Business Agents; 24 Delegates to the International Convention at Atlantic City; 5 Relief Committee Members.

Polls will be open in various parts of the city from 8 A.M. to 7 P.M.

The Union is preparing to send a polling notice to every shop giving the polling place most convenient to that shop. The purpose of that notice is to see that the membership uses all the polling places thus saving waiting time and ensuring quick voting and service.

The official list of polling places follows:

1. 232 West 4th Street.
2. 12th St. and 4th Ave. Base.

ment (name as last year).

3. 304 W. 35th St. (near 4th Ave.) Store and mercantile.
4. 161 W. 37th St. Cafeteria, 27th St. and 4th Ave.
5. 247 W. 34th St.
6. 250 W. 26th St. (Farrells).
7. 147 W. 22nd St.
8. Bronx Office, 305 E. Tremont Ave.
9. Harlem Office, 1914 Third Ave.
10. Williamsburg Office, 815 Broadway, Brooklyn.
11. Boro Park Office, 3519 14th Ave. Brooklyn.
12. Brownsville Office, 219 Sackman St., Brooklyn.

The Executive Board has issued a call to all members of Local 22 urging each and every one to cast his ballot. The statement said to vote: "It is your solemn duty to vote. You will be doing an injustice to yourself, to your family and to your organization as a whole if you fail to do this. It is your moral obligation to maintain democracy in your Union by taking full advantage of all the prerogatives of democracy. Make up your mind now. Get out and vote. See that your supervisors turn out to cast their ballots."

"22" Masque Ball Scores Overwhelming Success

CROWD JAM'S ARMORY—GREET'S PAGEANT WITH CHEERS—C. I. O. COSTUME WINS FIRST PRIZE—GARDEN FOR NEXT YEAR'S OCCASION

With 11,000 happy workers jamming the Society-Farm Regiment Armory, a spectacular pageant in terrestrial and colorful costumes representing the ideals and aspirations of the labor movement, Local 42's Masque Ball, Saturday evening, March 6, scored an overwhelming success.

No great need the pressure for admission and so much an institution has the event become, that it was announced Madison Square Garden, largest dance floor and hall in the country, had been selected for next year.

No large was the crowd that the fire corps, interpreting regulations strictly, prevented many from entering. To them the committee extends its sincere apologies.

Many Prizes

The official list of prizes follows:

First prize: Trip to Soviet Union; CIO group; Jacob Falter, labor.

Broder, Hyman Ginzgold, Adol Weiss and Joseph Freeman; Anna Johnson, Celia Hyman, Louis Blais, Hyman Ginzgold, Jacob Guttsch, Marian Mewsky.

Next: Deacon, Gladys Klein, Clarence Buckler, Rose Berger, Sal Vaford, Ricco, Tessie Cardini, Walter Pallidiano, Jennie Forni, Tracy Florest, Rose Margolis, Besse Pillen.

The costume judges were Lewis Cony, James Farrell, Lisa Markas, Maurice Schwartz, Mark Schwed, John Wesley, Luigi Antonini and Julius Hochman. Following the costume parade past the front of the stage, the masquers passed in single file through the judges' room for final judging and selection. There were many beautiful and effective costumes that could not be considered for prizes because the published conditions called for costumes identified with the cause of labor.



Here We See the First Prize Winner at the Local 22 Ball. It Shows "Suspension Trying to Break the Unity of the Unions While C.I.O. Is Busily Engaged in Forging New Links."

Happy Crowd At "22" Masque



Of Course We Can't Show the Whole Crowd at the Spectacular Masque Ball That Jammed Every Corner of the Giant 71st Regiment Armory. But Here's A Happy Crowd Taken From In Front of the Band Platform As A Labor Pageant Was Being Performed.

Louis Schliser and Oscar Chodakovsky.

Second prize: Two weeks at ILGWU convention; Tawel Hartman and 3/4 Takt; Fira Galper and Jenny Lefko.

Third prize: Week at ILGWU convention; Workers Bear the Burden; Charles Klein.

Fourth prize: Two weeks' vacation at Unity; Spanish Group, Jennie Silverman and Joseph Bloom.

Fifth prize: One week at Unity; Cosmopolitan; Hyman Begon.

Other prizes, all valuable, were granted the following by the judges:

Phillip Weiss, Scholem Wasilofsky and David Packer, Isidore

Splendid Pageant

The pageant under the direction of Charles Friedman of Labor Stage was greeted with a hundred dancers was greeted with a hundred dancers who told the story of the trials of the workers during prosperity and depression with the eventual solution of their troubles in unionism.

Everybody had a good time. The music from Benny Goodman's swing artists kept people dancing until dawn. Charles Johnson's band, substituted at the last moment for the Chick Webb orchestra, came through with rollicking rhythms and now takes its place

LOCAL 22 SPORT SQUIBS

By Leo Cohen
Athletic Director

BIG CROWD; BIG WIN: An orchid with a large purple ribbon to our girls who squeezed through a 14 to 15 win at the Hippodrome game. Playing before 6,000 people was a new experience and "cage fright" kept our girls sort of tense in the first half. But they got their rubber legs and glass eyes in the second half and chalked up the necessary points to win. Dot Tucker and Willie Man were the stars that attracted the astronomer. Sadie Kravitz did some tall ball juggling and was the key in several scoring plays.

BY A NOSE: The soccer team took a moderate sock from the New York Americans at Starlight Park last week. The game nip and tuck and even tuck and nip until the enemy booted in the deciding goal. The final score was 3 to 2 which was close to victory that it deserves a little celebration. Joe Habbet was a tower of strength.

THINGS AHEAD: This Summer

As one of the name bands of Broadway.

One thing has been decided on. The affair has become such an institution that even the vast drill shed of the armory is much too small. Next year it will be Madison Square Garden.

To the various committees and individuals who helped make the affair such a stupendous success, the Union extends its sincere thanks and expressions of gratitude.

will see competitive sports including softball, handball and swimming among the International League according to an announcement from the International Athletic Council. Our teams are all going and are in the trophy collection mood.

WE'RE OUT FOR IT: Sure, we're tickled that our 22 gals have taken the championship of their division. Now we're looking forward to the game that will decide the championship of the International. We've got the team; we've got the steam; and we have a place reserved for the trophy.

A HANDSHAKE FOR LOCAL 89: Local 89 showed up for our second soccer league game minus a few of their best players and short in subs. Like good sports they insisted on playing. The game went only one-half and it was no contest but I want to say here and there that the Batters made up in courage and sportsmanship for their lack of skill on the field.

IVORY SEASON COMING: Fourteen sluggers showed up for the first indoor practice and skull session of the baseball team. Samuel Rolfe and Sam Fried must have been doing a little swinging during the Winter because they had an eye on the ball and patted it with the home-run label. Murray Cohen who was sent to the bench last year by an umpire named Appleditch is back in trim with a mean swing. Harry Reinhold had a good trick or two at bat but showed his real stuff in the field. We're just rubbing our hands. Of course it's still early but the birds are saying we'll go places in baseball this year.

Want To Be A CITIZEN ?

It has always been important to be a citizen of the United States.

Today, with social security and other legislation, it is your duty to yourself and your family.

The Joint Board Helps

Come to Room 602 between 4 and 5 P.M. any working day or between 10 and Noon on Saturdays for information.

Mr. Morris Teich, an expert in the field as well as a person familiar with the problems of our own members, is there to give you service.

There is no charge for advice. There is a fee of \$1 for photographs. The other charges are the fees you must pay the United States Government.

DO IT NOW!

Now On Eastern Hook-Up

"The Voice of Local 89"

The Most Popular

Italian Radio Hour

Symphony Orchestra and Opera Singers of International Fame

DRAMATIC SKETCHES

LUIGI ANTONINI

First Vice-President, ILGWU, and General Secretary of Local 89

In his weekly comments on labor and political events

Also Other Speakers on Timely Union Topics

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING

From 10 to 11 on Stations WEDD (1280 Kc.) New York WRAX (1250 Kc.) Philadelphia WFLA (900 Kc.) New Haven WCOP (1120 Kc.) Boston

Over 65; But Happy — Thanks To Union



LOCAL 89's Old Age Benefit Plan Is A Boon to Elderly Members Who Find Themselves Impoverished in Their Old Age. Above Is Shown A Group of Beneficiaries. Luigi Antonini, General Secretary of the Local, Does Not See the Benefit System As A Substitute for Government Security. He Regards It As An Interim Measure Designed To Tide His Members Over Until Adequate Government Security Is

Blue Dale "Strikers" Celebrate



It Was A Lively Party With A Dance Orchestra, Refreshments and Movies On the Sixth Floor of the Dress Joint Board Building, Saturday Afternoon, March 6. The Workers of the Blue Dale Dress Company Gathered to Celebrate the Victory of the Union Over the "Runaway" Shop Which Was Forced to Come Back to New York in A Famous Decision Handed Down by Supreme Court Justice McCook. Picture Shows General Manager Hinchman Talking to Some of the Girls. Next to Him (With the Cigarette) is Abraham Schlesinger. Immediately in Back of Schlesinger is Emil Schlesinger, Counsel to the Union, Who Won the Legal Victory. On the Extreme Right Is Luigi Antonini, General Secretary of Local 89. As A Matter of Fact, All the Local Managers and the Staff of the Union Turned Out to Honor the Blue Dale Workers. Mike Switcherlin, Business Agent, Was Presented With A Gift. Gifts Were Given "Nettie," the Shop Chairman; Members of the Active Strike Committee Also Received Mementos.

Child Labor Ban
And Court Reform
Backed By Union

The Dress Joint Board and its affiliated locals have been putting on an active campaign in behalf of ratification of the Child Labor Amendment and President Roosevelt's proposal for the reform of the Supreme Court.

General Manager Hinchman spent March 8 and 9 at Washington, D. C., as the delegate of the Joint Board

to the national labor conference summoned by Labor's Non-Partisan League. Plans were made to endorse the full power of labor in a drive to pass the President's court reform proposals.

Many dressmakers were members of the labor delegation that went to the open hearing at Albany several weeks ago and the board has kept up a constant barrage of telegrams and letters to Assembly men. Unfortunately, at this writing, it has already become known that the New York Legislature has again killed the Child Labor Ban measure.

Local 89 Signs
Contract for An
Italian Unit at
L.A. SanatoriumAssumes Obligation for
Ten Beds

Decisive steps towards the erection of the pavilion "Italia" at the Los Angeles, Calif., Sanatorium, to be maintained by the Sick and Benefit Fund of Local 89, were taken on Saturday, March 6, when a contract was signed in the office of Emil Schlesinger, union attorney.

Signatures for the Union were affixed by Luigi Antonini, General Secretary of Local 89, and Giuseppe Prosserini, president of the Sick Benefit Fund. Samuel H. Goller and Mollie Friedman represented the Sanatorium.

According to the terms of the contract, which had been previously approved by the Executive Board of the Local, the union obligates itself to pay a fixed yearly amount for each tubercular patient it will send to Los Angeles and to contribute also \$12,000 to the erection of a unit or pavilion, to be called "Italia," where the Italian patients sent by Local 89 will be housed and treated. The obligation of the Local, however, is limited to a maximum of ten patients, corresponding to the capacity of the Italian unit to be erected. The Sanatorium, on its part, is obligated to furnish these Italian patients with service and food best fitted to their inclination and habits. In addition to medical and curative facilities available to the patients in general, the pavilion will be ready for occupancy by the end of the year.

This added assistance on the part of Local 89 to such of its members as become affected by tuberculosis, who up to now were entitled only to a cash benefit of \$250 upon their resignation from the Union, marks an advance towards a goal to provide in the future sick members with hospitalization and preventative cure rather than with cash advances which, no matter how liberal, may only bring temporary relief.

Local 62 Joins Radio
Broadcasters' Parade

By Samuel Shore, Manager
White Goods Workers' Union

"Sixty-Two" is buzzing with activities.

We have had a number of successfully conducted shop strikes, and have made additional gains by negotiations. Right now we are in the midst of nominations and elections, the first of which is scheduled at Webster Hall on March 16, immediately after work.

Our educational program is going ahead full speed, and now we have added another feature to this program, which has created wide interest and favorable comment. In the form of a regular weekly broadcast over Station WKEV.

Mapping Up
Delinquents

During recent weeks we have carried on a "clean up" campaign which has met with a more than moderate degree of success. The settlement with the S. Weinberg Co., where, after finding evidence of serious non-compliance, a strike was called, with the cooperation of Local 16, was a highlight in this drive. After the strike had been in effect over the week the firm came to terms and paid a fine of \$250. The settlement included a sliding scale increase of from one to four dollars, in addition to a five per cent increase covering the entire payroll. The firm joined the Linotype Association to further insure uninterrupted operation under the collective agreement.

The capture of the "runaway" Embury Undergarment Company was another point scored. This firm suddenly closed its doors in New York and seemingly disappeared, only to be discovered in a hideout corner of Brooklyn. A stoppage brought the firm to terms. A five per cent rate increase was obtained, plus other raises of one and two dollars. Week-work was established and provision made for the workers previously employed to return to their former jobs.

Still another gain was made by our workers in the case of the Midway Novelty Company, a contracting shop. Here a strike lasted a week and a half. A settlement was made providing complete unionization with reference to hours, pay, and other conditions of employment. Week-workers obtained an increase, piece-work prices were reestablished, and definite minimums

established. The firm also put up a cash bond to guarantee the performance of the agreement.

Still another advance for the Union came with the signing of the Colonial Undergarment Co. Formerly a jobber, this firm has now gone into manufacturing on a large scale. After a series of negotiations, we established 100 per cent union conditions for the workers, who have all joined "62."

Section Meetings;
Radio Talks

On Tuesday, March 16, we will hold our nomination meeting at Webster Hall, and expect a record turnout. Our members are showing an ever-increasing interest in the affairs of the Union, and we know they will come out in large numbers to nominate officers and executive board members for the ensuing term, as well as delegates to the coming convention of our International.

Of our more recent activities is a weekly radio broadcast from Station WKEV every Thursday night at 10:30 P.M. Despite its youth—it is only three weeks old—this feature has already won the interest of our members and of the general public. These radio broadcasts aim to primarily bring into the homes of our 11,000 members the message of the Union. This message is not, however, limited to its scope but is calculated to bring to those outside the Union an understanding of our program and principles.

JOINT BOARD SUPPORTS
PHOTOGRAPHERS' UNION

The Dress Joint Board at a recent meeting passed resolutions urging all members and affiliated organizations to see that they give their photographic work only to photographers who have signed with the Photographers and Finishers' Union, Local 1893, A. F. of L.

Knock, Knock!
Who's There?
Forum.
Forum what?

Forum Advancing America.
(Every Thursday night at
Manhattan Opera House.)

Presser Athletes Reverse Gratitude Order



Athletic Club of Local 60, At Dinner On February 24 In Gottlieb's Restaurant, Present Trophies to Max Cohen, Manager, and I. Wasilvsky, Chairman, of Dress Pressers' Union, In Appreciation of Their Unwavering Support of Athletics Among Membership.

**See...
STEEL**

by
JOHN WEXLEY

Presented by
LABOR stage

With I.L.G.W.U. Players
Directed by MARK SCHWED - Scripts by S. SYRJALA

Every Saturday Matinee and
Special Performances by Arrangement
at **LABOR STAGE**
106 West 39th St., New York City
Prices 40c to \$1.00 Plus Tax
Special Rates for Benefits and
Theatre Parties. Wisconsin 7-9331

**A Drama of Heroic Americans
In an Epic Struggle**

...Dubinsky Visit Stirs St. Louis, Kansas City...

(Continued from Page 11)

and public-spirited citizens, the Board of Arbitrators under the new dress agreement, and other noted guests.

"I was hostmaster, and talks were delivered by the different group leaders, the representatives of the Central Labor Union, President Williams of the Board of Arbitrators, Howard Ethel, counsel for the manufacturers, Milton Rosenfeld of the Cardale Cloth shop, whose revenue became a union shop, and a number of others spoke. The last talk was delivered by President Dubinsky. The banquet was held for about 200 people. It was an unforgettable evening.

"The next day a mass meeting was held after work hours for all the members of the St. Louis unions at the Municipal Auditorium and over 1,000 attended. I was chairman. Brother Gilbert spoke, and was followed by President Dubinsky who spoke in one of his best moods. The applause he received was tremendous.

"That same evening we left for Kansas City.

"There was a banquet in Kansas City at the Muehlbach Hotel at which the old as well as the new comrades in our ILGWU were present. Several of the manufacturers who have had agreements with us for the last few years and the new manufacturers, who have recently signed agreements with us, were present.

"At the speakers' table were Mr. Frank Pritz of the Stern-Siegman-Pritz Company, Mr. Brand & Puritz Company, Mr. Louis Walter, who represented the Union group, and Mr. Min Townsend of the YWCA. About 200 people came to this dinner.

"It was the first time in Kansas City history where large employers of labor, who only recently fought the Union for so many years, came to break bread with the leaders of labor and with labor at the same table. I was the toastmaster. Mr. Pritz, of the Stern-Siegman-Pritz Company, spoke of the relations between capital and labor and reviewed the reasons why the Union has changed its labor policy and concluded with the wish that now we shall be able to march forward for the good of all workers in industry.

"Mr. Brand, of the Brand & Puritz firm, also gave his address and the firm had changed its policy towards the Union, declaring that in the last three years they have learned that when the ILGWU is determined to unionize a trade or a firm it cannot be sidetracked. When we are thrown out the door, we come in through the window," he remarked amid great applause. There is so much building tenacity and idealism in our work that they thought it rational to come to terms with us.

"And thus all along the line.

"President Dubinsky delivered the final talk. He told of the struggle of the ILGWU for the past 25 years, of the idealism and self-sacrifice of its members and leaders, of the practical and spiritual values it has brought to the workers. This banquet was really a history-making event in the life of our people here in the community at large in Kansas City as well as St. Louis. The newspapers heralded the news of President Dubinsky's coming an important event, declaring it to be a landmark in the history of our organization and in its leaders.

"On Saturday morning, March 6, a mass meeting of all of our new and old members was held in the Little Theatre of the New Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, one of the most beautiful meeting places in the city. The installation of the new officers of Local 226,

Dubinsky Greeted As He Arrives At Kansas City



Head of Ladies' Garment Workers Shown Before He Addressed 700 Union Members on March 4, At Little Theatre of Municipal Auditorium—Group of Union Members Welcome Dubinsky As He Announces Plans to Organize Donnelly Garment Company Owned by Mr. James A. Reed.

which consists of the workers of the Stern-Siegman-Pritz Company, took place that morning. Again President Dubinsky spoke for an hour and a half to the newcomers in our Union, of the great history of our International. He began with the time when we had to buy and carry our own sewing machines on our shoulders, when we had to pay for needles, thread and electricity; he recited our campaign in the last few years, and spoke of our struggles in Kansas City and in other sections of the country. He talked about the recent presidential campaign, and of the part our International took.

"Our old members were, perhaps, the happiest people on earth when they observed the experience with which the newcomers were listened to by President Dubinsky and the rest of the group. They were realizing that only a year or two ago we could hardly fill a small place in the Easter's Hall while now we were meeting in one of the most beautiful auditoriums in the United States. There was a great outburst of applause, which should be appreciated all the more because most of the 600 people who were present were formerly members of company unions.

"On Saturday afternoon President Dubinsky visited the factory of the Stern-Siegman-Pritz Company in South Kansas City, spoke through all the departments of the shop. It is considered one of the model cloth factories in the country. Next we visited the factory of the Brand & Puritz Company."

Brand & Puritz, Marlene Dress Co. Now Union Firms

By Meyer Perlstein
ILGWU Regional Director

On Friday morning, March 5, on the premises of the Brand & Puritz Company, the signatures of the Union and the firm were attached to a three-year agreement which ended the struggle that the Union conducted for many years in unionize the shop. It was a hard struggle. This firm was the leader in the company-union movement that developed with the collapse of the NRA. The firm was closely affiliated with the "Protective Alliance" of large Kansas City employers and industrialists who determined that unionization had no place in Kansas City. The Chamber of Commerce of the city advertised widely that manufacturing concern should locate here because

there was no unionization and there would be none in this town. The Brand & Puritz Company, together with the Stern-Siegman-Pritz Company, and others were among those who brought in the Ahner Detective Agency of St. Louis, to organize, supervise and control the company union.

It is an account of this firm that I tasted of the pleasure of a Kansas City jail for seventeen hours. It was because of this firm that a good many of our active girls here also tasted the jail.

Brand & Puritz and other employers here had millions of dollars at their disposal to fight unionism. A good many labor men, leaders of unionization here, found the mailed fist and the strong arm in their way and were halted. Our Union has thus far been the only labor organization that has succeeded in breaking down this iron wall. The impossible has become possible. It is our determination, our spirit of self-sacrifice, that has brought about these results. The town is wondering: the town is amazed at our ability to achieve these things.

The agreement that was signed with the firm provides for a closed union shop, code books and wages

etc. And already, a couple of days later, a majority of the workers in the shop have joined the Union and the shop will soon become an outstanding union shop in this section of the country.

The firm employs from 225 to 250 workers making coats and suits.

Marlene Dress Also Signs

On Wednesday morning, March 2, at my room in the Muehlbach Hotel, our signatures were also attached to a two-year agreement with the Marlene Dress Company, a silk dress firm. This agreement has ended a three-year struggle for the unionization of this shop.

This firm employs between 30 and 100 dress workers and it is the exclusive dress-shop of the city.

So it goes. Kansas City is gradually going completely union. First, the Stern-Siegman-Pritz Company, with 250 workers; second, the Liberty Dress Company, a cotton dress firm will offer 400 workers—part of them employed in Kansas City and the remainder in a subsidiary shop in Lexington, Mo., and the agreement providing for a closed union shop in both cities with code hours

and wages; third, the Brand & Puritz Company, and fourth, the Marlene Dress Company. The Union in Kansas City has grown overnight from a membership of 175 to a membership of between 1,100 and 1,200.

There are about eight or ten shops in the cotton dress, silk dress and cloak industry that will have to follow suit. We are at it and we hope that these shops will have agreements signed within the next couple of weeks.

Nell Donnelly Next

We now have the drive to organize the most outstanding dress shop in the country and that is the Nell Donnelly Garment Company. The firm employs between 1,200 and 1,500 workers and it is owned by Mr. James A. Reed, former United States Senator from Missouri.

Mr. Reed, who was so active in the last presidential campaign, and has done so much by speech and action to undermine our organization, is next on our list. We don't expect easy sailing and we are all prepared for it.

The firm is very strong, financially and politically, and plenty of hard work can be expected. As far as the conditions of the workers in the shop are concerned, the firm has established in its work room the most perfect driving system developed by the ingenuity of man. Under this system a girl worker cannot last long as her energies become quickly exhausted.

The firm manufactures mostly silk dresses and the highest type of cotton dresses that are being produced in the silk dress shops. The minimum wage scale established in the Donnelly shop is \$15 per week while the minimum wage scale for the same type of dresses in this section is \$12.05 per week. The hours were about 50 per week until recently when the firm reduced the hours to 40 after the Union had become active; the hours in the union dress shops are 35 per week.

No worker who shows any inclination towards unionism is permitted in the shop.

Our campaign to unionize this firm will be a twofold one. First, organization among the workers and, second, a publicity campaign on a large scale, a campaign that will call the attention of the retailers and consumers to the conditions that exist in the Donnelly factory.

Kansas City Dressmakers Listen to First Union Talk



Meyer Perlstein Addressing All Noon-Hour Workers of Liberty Frock Co., Kansas City, on February 24, Advising Them of Terms of Union Agreement—The Shop Becomes First Cotton Dress and Union Label Factory in Kansas City—Firm Employs 450 Workers in Kansas City and Lexington, Missouri.

"Palestine—Land of Labor's Opportunity"

An Interview
By M. D. D.

If Isidore Nagler, the man at the helm of the New York Clunk Joint Board, left New York for Palestine late last December with any uncertainty concerning the future of Jewish labor in the Holy Land, he can no longer have any doubts. In the early days of the current March with "bases cleared" and "carts" to go.

Nagler was verily bursting with enthusiasm for the Palestinian trade union organization, the "Histadruth," as he was putting out three answers to each of my questions in a torrential hour-long interview. I have always known Nagler to be thorough and painstaking, but I never suspected that he had such an astounding capacity for assimilating outstanding detail and intricate local terminology, loaded with facts and figures, which fairly dazzled and dazed me. To me, a type in things concerning Palestine, his lucid and exact expositions, a walking arsenal of information which seemed as confident as his newly-burnished convictions, made him the most reliable of informants in the province of his daily activity—the clunk and suit renouveau of New York.

The story of the "Histadruth," the organization of industrial and agricultural laborers whose pioneering career began practically with the Jewish labor in the Jewish settlement in Palestine, is too ambitious a narrative to be told in these sparse columns. It might be enough for the purpose of this article to say that it embraces today in its fold no less than half of the entire Jewish population of the Holy Land settlement. (The Jewish group in Palestine numbers 400,000; "Histadruth" has an adult membership of nearly 100,000, with the simple addition of a marriage person.) The sphere of life of each member, should place no less than half of the population under "Histadruth" influence.

"Histadruth" however, is no mere trade union. It is a land settler, a builder of cities and ports, a cooperator, a producer of both agricultural and industrial products; it is a banker, a merchant, a labor union, an educational agency, a grand-scale provider of cultural and recreational fare for its huge membership; it is a publisher of newspapers and magazines. It is a theatrical producer and an insurance agency, a health and sick benefit organization as well as a hospital builder and maintainer.

In brief, "Histadruth" is a co-operative commonwealth—and not in isolation when the idea of Palestine is taken into account—that leaves nothing to chance insofar as the life and comforts of its own members are concerned and nothing reduces that could reasonably fall within its power to its limits. Freely, it is the most virile branch of the entire scheme of Palestine colonization with a magic capacity for yielding fruit and achieving results in a land that seemed sterile and alien to modern methods and modern achievement.

All this I heard from Isidore Nagler whose conversation fairly bristled with Hebrew terms, names, and words—emphatically, I emphasize this because the most of these lived and brought up on "the sidewalks of New York." Isidore Nagler did not have an over-dose of Hebrew to bank on when he left New York to go to the Holy Land. The exact with which he handled—I might say fondled—the Hebrew geographic outlines

of the Palestine shoreline and hinterland, his minute description of the administrative, industrial and cultural machinery of the "Histadruth," a complete knowledge of a seasoned Told-Avivian, most impressed me with Nagler's uncanny capacity for grasping bits and parts and reconstructing them into a graphic whole.

We finally cut across to some vital questions—I asked him for a frank statement concerning that burning Jew vs. Arab question. He saw, heard or guessed it "on his own" during his five-week stay in Palestine.

"It appeals trouble for the hour, but for it is a soluble question, and I for one am convinced that the British forces behind the 'Histadruth' which have already overcome unbelievably hard problems will also overcome this one," Nagler said in his incisive, leave-no-doubt way. "The Arab-Jew feud, if you wish to term it that way, is not based on irreconcilable differences as some are trying to make us believe. It is not nearly as much a racial or social division as an economic one," Nagler proceeded, "and let me make this clear. It is a perversion of facts to assume that the clunk and suit among the Palestine Arabs, the fellahs, the workers on the fields or docks, have suffered through the Jewish settlement. Quite to the contrary. The Jewish planters, colonists, co-operators or cultivators who employ Arab help are paying them many times more than the local Arab landowners ever paid them. The Jewish colonization movement has vastly improved the Arab standard of living, raised their earning power, and that's where the rub comes in."

"You see, this phenomenal war-rage is something which the Arab landowners, the fellahs, the Arab workers of labor in general and the Arab planters cannot forgive or forget. That's why they want the settlement of Jews brought to a close by the British and that's why they are inciting the Arab mob to terrorize the Jews and are whipping them into a frenzy of nationalism against all 'alien' settlers."

"In a nutshell, therefore, the problem is chiefly economic, I personally believe that if the Jewish colonists and the 'Histadruth' could be paying Arab labor the same miserable five piasters a day on the fields of Palestine or on the docks of Haifa instead of twenty or twenty-five piasters as they are paying them now, there would be no disturbance in Palestine. Even the English administrators would have been happier. I have reasons to suspect," Nagler concluded.

But "Histadruth" would not foot a coin wage upon Arab labor, "Histadruth" first of all is a genuine labor organization, a limb of the general world labor movement, and it would not stoop to labor exploitation even for the sake of a piece with the growing, grafting Arab fellahland owners and managers.

Nagler sees a cheery future for Palestine labor within the wide framework of the "Histadruth," the Jewish response of the world labor movement and he is confident that it will get it. British labor, French labor and Socialism are enthusiastic for the Palestine experiment for its effective building of a free cooperative society within the boundaries of the Holy Land. "It took the 'Histadruth' a dozen years to accomplish in Palestine what we could not achieve in North Africa in nearly a century," Nagler said.

"Colonel" told Nagler, Brigadier, Preliminary and other high delegates when they visited

him in connection with their mission in Paris.

"What they are proud of mostly, and what leads to the jewel of their achievement, are the model colonies, superb in every sense, which streak the land from end to end. Within these colonies they are building a practical socialism. There is a spirit of idealism that is bound to win. It is a privilege, indeed, to be of any help to these inspired pioneers."

Each Year We Pay A Visit To Triangle Graves



By Fannie M. Cohn

The contribution our women made in building our International is still waiting for the historian to evaluate. It was the fate of our women workers—the waist and dressmakers, the wrapper and kimono workers, the underwear makers and many others—to make the most heroic struggle against the blot of American civilization—the sweatshop.

The dramatic heroism of the waistmakers rises like a beacon before our imagination. Who can forget the courage and the daring of the women of 1907? History records this as the first general protest of garment workers against sweatshop conditions in our country and the most important struggle in numbers and endurance of working women the world over. But greed was determined not to make too great concessions to the workers. Many more struggles had to be carried on by the women garment workers to impress upon the employers the fact that the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was there to stay.

The price paid by the waistmakers for union recognition was terrific. On the beautiful Spring morning of March 25, 1911, a crowd was attracted by an outcry of hundreds of women trapped in a burning sweatshop. The workers in the Triangle shop rushed to the doors of the fire escapes, only to find them locked. The doors were kept locked for fear that an organizer might pass or that someone might carry out a piece of ribbon. When the fire was extinguished, a horrible picture was unfolded: 146 burned bodies were found, near the closed doors.

The thousands of waist and dressmakers, cloakmakers and other members of our International who followed the procession of protest pledged then that these 146 unprotected human beings, sacrificed to greed and industrial autocracy, shall not have perished in vain. The multitudes who followed the burned and maimed bodies knew

Who is Psychic Now?

By J. C. Rich

A Lesson in Journalism—Sending Lewis to the Psychiatrist—Sew Grapes Served With Crow Meat—Victory for the CIO or Who is Lousy Now?

Today's lesson in Journalism will be devoted to that neat trick achieved by some of our more accomplished oracles of public opinion by which day is turned into night and white into black. This is similar to the effort whereby night is turned into day and black into white. The practiced artist finds that the change can be effected very simply by shifting into reverse English. Once the trick is learned it is very simple and extremely useful as well. No editorial writer or commentator on a hypothetical journal, these days, should be without it. In fact none of them is.

An example of the art practiced by some of our earnest thinkers will be most instructive. If the student will please turn to the editorial page of the New York Herald-Tribune he will find an excellent example. We choose the Trib as the most representative, but about any organ of solid thought will do, and the more solid the better. Nor is the party label especially significant, for Democrats as well as Republican papers will pull the same trick and the editorials of the two brands are interchangeable.

A Bughouse Fable

We pick as our sample for today an editorial labeled "The CIO Sucks." Something has happened in this our country and it is as unacceptable to the solid thinkers in the editorial rooms as was the Roosevelt landslide of last Fall. Since they can't understand it, they are going to explain to their readers what it is all about. It took a full week of pondering for the Trib-thinker to produce the masterpiece. Let no one suspect, therefore, that it is the fruit of impulsiveness. Moreover, the style and content show that it is by the hand of some genius who is regarded that John L. Lewis has turned over to a psychiatrist for his presumption in expecting a sympathetic attitude in behalf of labor on the part of the government. That single word, as the CIO fairly rattle, people may ask who is psychic now? It is possible that Tory editorial writers have taken to cutting paper dolls in the streets, or have they all been that way?

That there was only one way to prevent such tragedies—and that was a union strong enough to defend the workers in their daily struggles and to protect their very lives.

The waist and dressmakers, the wrapper and kimono workers, the children's dressmakers and underwear workers, under the leadership of our International, kept their faith. The steady purpose that motivated all our activities kept the "light burning" despite difficulties. We carried the gospel of trade unionism everywhere.

This is the monument that the second generation of America's garment workers is building to the pioneers of our Union, who for over fifty years fought and struggled against odds in a new country. This is the tribute we pay each year to our Triangle victims—the 146 young workers whose lives were sacrificed to sweatshop conditions.

A Tough Question

The Carnegie-Morris steel strikers, with Lewis' union, "want" says our psychic editor, "went no farther than to recognize it as the bargaining agency for its own members. There was no collateral bargaining as in the case of the General Motors settlement." Why, then, should the automobile settlement have been considered pretty generally a defeat for Mr. Lewis while that with a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation has been heralded as a great victory?

This is a pretty difficult question, as anyone can see, but we are ready to answer it as seen as the editor of the Tribune will tell us why he has stopped beating his wife. We don't know that he has ever started beating his wife, but we demand an answer just the same, just as he wants to know why the automobile settlement was considered a "defeat." The answer, in fact, is that labor pretty generally thought the motors settlement was a grand victory, but undoubtedly the Tribune knows better what its "good" for labor. The surprising thing in view of the editors is that General Motors should have fought so bitterly to try to avert this "defeat" for labor.

Explaining A Victory

The very same Tory papers that our defeat in victory also carried a victory for labor. The Tribune was forced to settle with the union. The reason they give is a simple one, indeed. It seems the company could not produce automobiles while the strike was on and its competitors were running away with the business. This is practically what happens in a strike of cloakmakers or dressmakers and is a reasonable account of how a strike is won. But, perhaps, the serious thinkers don't read the strike news of their own newspapers.

"A mere nod and 'Hi Steel,'" our sample editorial surges on, "and Lewis emerges resplendent from the mud of defeat, gloriously induced by his all-out strike." His drive gains momentum. . . . Fine are under way for mighty campaigns. . . . And on the battle goes on.

There is Hope

This is certainly gag of the Tribune and if the clause will be printed the sour grapes will be served immediately. "Before we conclude," it says, "that Lewis has all but won his labor dictatorship it is well to remember that he has still to make a psychological conquest. The independent steel companies."

Mr. Ford. . . . The potentest craft union. . . . and the even larger number of unnecessary workers preferring, if necessary, to join Ford.

The powerful craft unions have never felt the jolt of full and virile strength as much as today since the victories in the mass industries. Those of labor's leadership who do not understand it are out of tune with their own membership. As for the A.F.L., President Green gave the company names the gate when they wanted his help. Job the drive in the steel industry, so there is little comfort in it for the psychiatrists of the Tribune. Yet the editorial wings up on a cheerful note. There is hope, it feels, for while "the quality of capitalism of steel may prove decisive in the end, the end is not yet."

This, then, dear class, is the sort of thinking and the attitude toward labor still prevailing in the Old Day press. We hope you have all taken the lesson to heart. By the end, to be sure, is nowhere near the end.

Labor at the Capitol

The "Labor Bloc" In Congress

By Henry Zon

(Special to "Justice")

WASHINGTON.—To speak of "the labor bloc" in Congress and to be forced to admit that it consists of at most 125 of the 535 Senators and Representatives is at once a commentary on the operation of our democratic system.

Congress, theoretically, is representative of the will of the people. Its members sit here and draw salaries of \$10,000 a year and expenses because each one of them, in theory, represents the interests of his constituents. Yet it is obvious that the workers of the nation constitute more than 20 per cent of the population. In Congress, however, 20 per cent of the representatives is the most that the workers can count upon to support legislation in their interest.

But the situation is improving. In this 75th Congress, there are about 10 Representatives who owe their election directly to the support of organized labor. George B. Kelly of Rochester, N. Y., is one of these. Kelly was supported by the American Labor Party and in turn will support the interests of labor in Congress.

The year, 1935, was the first in



GEORGE B. KELLY
ALP Rochester Congressman

the history of the country when a large aggressive part of organized labor moved into the political field directly. Previously the American Federation of Labor adopted a "non-partisan" policy of "elect our friends and defeat our enemies." In most instances the actual work done by A. F. of L. officials consisted of endorsing one of several candidates as "labor's candidate" and letting it go at that.

The picture changed with the creation of Labor's Non-Partisan League. The League's chief objective was the re-election of President Roosevelt but it was impossible for local candidates for Congressional offices to avoid the issues raised by the League, that of reaction against democracy. Labor, through the League, put speakers in the field; it put speakers on the radio, and its workers combed every district to get out votes for the President and persons who would support the President's program in Congress.

In this Congress, therefore, there are approximately 40 Representatives who know that if they wish to return in 1939 and if they wish to keep the faith of their constituents they will vote for measures that labor wants. Another 60 can be counted upon to tug along if the pressure from the other side is not too great.

At the moment no special piece of labor legislation is in the limelight. Congressional action is hampered far until the late of the President's proposal regarding the Supreme Court is decided for it is felt that once the reactionary barrier of the court is quickly lowered, legislation can be hardly formulated.



WILLIAM J. FITZGERALD
Connecticut Malter M.C.

lated and pushed.

Generally the fate of labor legislation is in the hands of two persons, the chairman of the Senate committee on education and labor and the chairman of the House committee on labor. Senator Hugo Black of Alabama and Representative Wm. Connery of Massachusetts hold these two posts.

Black is a liberal Democrat and usually is found on the right side of the fence. He headed the Senate committee investigating lobbying and his training as a prosecuting attorney helps him to worm from lobbyists appearing before his labor committee the real basis for their desire for a particular piece of legislation.

Billy Connery, on the House side, runs his committee as democratically as possible. It is his policy to report on any piece of legislation desired by a member of the committee on the theory that the House itself should decide whether it wants to pass or reject that law. His background is the vaudeville and musical comedy stage and even yet persons in the gallery pretend surprise when he falls to break into a dance routine at the end of a speech.

Black and Connery have pending in both Houses of Congress the Black-Connery bill providing for a 20-hour work-week. The bill specifies that no goods can be shipped in interstate commerce unless made by labor working a 20-hour week. It is lying in committee awaiting the result of the fight over the Supreme Court.

Forming the nucleus for the labor bloc in the House is the Farmer-Labor delegation of five persons from Minnesota and Wisconsin. These from Minnesota are Henry Telgan, Dewey Johnson, Paul Kvale, John Bernard and Richard Buckler. From Wisconsin there are Thomas Amle, Harry Sawyer, Gardner Wisner, Gerald Bolles, George Schneider, Merlin Hull, and B. J. Gehrman.

From the State of Washington come two Representatives, Knute Hill and John Coffey, who will back the Farmer-Labor-Progressive group. They are joined by Warren Magnuson, a member of the Brotherhood of Teamsters. Magnuson comes from the district formerly represented by Marion Zionscheck.

In addition to these will be Maury Maverick, generally recognized as the leader of the liberal bloc. Maverick comes from an old American family; of which he is very proud, and represents a fairly conservative district in Texas. His interest lies with the liberal legis-

Neckwear, Flower Workers Elect

On March 4 Local 142 held its elections for the Neckwear Section at its Union headquarters, 131 W. 53rd Street. 1,161 members voted. The following were elected:

Manager-Secretary: Joseph Turvin; President: Ernest Rathkopf; Vice-President: Theresa De Paolo; Business Agents: Emanuel Flax, Max K. Polikoff, Anna Wenger; Recording Secretary: Jean Richesgreen.

Executive Board: Precursors—Mildred Bailor, Alice Davis, Mary McFarlane; Trimmers—Sadie Abaness, Lucy Locanto, Jean Schwartz; Operators—Bella Arosa, Mary Brigante, Lily Bruno, Jennie Conner, Nettie D'Amico, Pauline Fonto, Sande Gowers, Mary Marino; Hand Sewers—Molly Padlow, Rose Stein, Kate Tartaro; Cutters—George Badame, Al Bennett, Ralph Bloom, Charles Pfanzagel, Jack Kretz, William Newman, George Silverman, William Wolf.

Finance Committee: Ben Densinger, Jack Liebson, Lillian Siering; Organization Committee: Tillie Brown, Irene Hecht, Mildred Kalka, Peter Todaro.

Delegates to International Convention: Theresa De Paolo, Jean Elchenberger, Peter Todaro; Alternates: Nettie D'Amico, Mary Marino.

Joseph Turvin was elected as delegate to the Convention by acclamation.

A spirited, though clean, campaign for election was held during the two weeks prior to the election. Competition between Ernest Rathkopf and William Wolf for president, and Jennie Conner and Theresa De Paolo for vice-president, and Emanuel Flax, Murray Hoffer and Max K. Polikoff for business agent created a good deal of excitement. The raids for the election prohibited direct electioneering and distribution of same by any candidate.

The Union mailed to each member a sample ballot giving the positions of each candidate. There were 91 candidates for the different offices. The new members of



By Pauline M. Newman

"Time, Stay Thy Flight!"

Every time I am reminded to write my "piece" for "Justice," I really wish with regret that another two weeks have passed—never to return again. Not that life for us, or for the likes of us, is a bed of roses. Nevertheless, we find it so very interesting, and frankly, we should like to hang on a little longer. No, we do not think of ourselves as indispensable. No individual ever was or is. Institutions, organizations and the world as a whole go on with or without you. The one thing we, as individuals can do, is to live on as to leave some mark of identification for those who are some day to take up the work we are now doing. And if one has had the good fortune to contribute—be it ever so little—

the Executive Board are as follows:

Alice Davis, Lucy Locanto, Jean Schwartz, Mary Brigante, Lily Bruno, Pauline Fonto, Sadie Gowers, Rose Stein, Kate Tartaro, Al Bennett, William Wolf.

The others are old elected members.

If the Flower Division at a special meeting called at Webster Hall the entire Executive Board and officers were re-elected, on motion, for the coming term by acclamation. The membership met for the purpose of nomination, but by a unanimous vote decided to go through with it at one meeting.

The Business Agent, Adolph A. Rudasill, was also elected by acclamation as delegate to the convention.

The First Voter



A Neckwear Worker, Local 142 Member, Casts First Ballot in Election Contest for Local Executives and Convention Delegates

lation rather than with the strictly labor legislation dealing with hours and wages.

Maverick is a strong civil liberties man and, as a veteran who was seriously wounded in the last war, is most interested in neutrality. He is a member of the House military affairs committee at which point he contemplates "raising merry hell," a pastime he enjoys and at which he is adept.

Byron Scott of California was elected in 1932 as a member of the Lincoln EPIC movement and has returned since as a Democratic candidate. He has pending a housing bill and a bill for the encouragement of cooperatives. Like Maverick he fits into the liberal bloc rather than the strictly labor group.

From Pittsburgh comes Henry

Ellenbogen, who was first elected in 1932. He is the author of the National Textile Act, being pushed by the United Textile Workers and, with Senator Wagner of New York, sponsor of the housing bill most likely to pass if any measure at all is approved by Congress.

Others in the House who can be counted upon to vote for legislation desired by labor are Matthew Dunn (Pa.), James Mead (N.Y.), Herman Koppelman (Conn.), John Lupton (Mich.), John Robeson (Ky.), Frank Haveren (Calif.), Ed Lee (Calif.), Jerry Voorhis (Calif.), Sam Honeymeyer (Oregon), Andrew Trausne (Mich.), Norman Hamilton (Va.), Ross Collins (Miss.), Herbert Binslow (Ohio), Bob Cramer (Ohio), Caroline O'Day (N.Y.) and Herman Thar-

toward the building of a higher civilization and a wiser world; one should be satisfied, I suppose, but there is so much to do, and so little time to do it in! But enough of that.

Conferences

As a result of our conference on the question of extending sick benefit funds to all our locals, the following representatives have met with Mr. Price: Brothers Shust and Schoenfeld of 42; Joseph Twinn of 142; and Henry Schwartz of 40. Some of these local executive boards have already voted to institute such a fund; in others the question is still to be acted upon. Interest, however, has been aroused, and action will doubtless follow.

Speaking of conferences reminds us that we conferred with Miss Hall, head of the Henry Street Settlement, the day after yesterday to know whether arrangements could be made for the use of their nursing service, etc. We also attended a conference at the office of the Industrial Commissioner on the pending Minimum Wage Bill. Fred W. Unruh was there to act his presence was invaluable.

Meetings

Spoke at a membership meeting of Local 210 in Newark. Said Reich, manager, had gotten out of a good crowd and there were many present who knew nothing of our work. He had a lot of new material to work on. It was a satisfaction to see so many young girls permeated with the spirit of our international—to "build and to fight" for the organization which has fastened in them a new meaning of life and a purpose to live for.

Presided at one of the forum meetings conducted by our Educational Department, with Dr. Hannah Stone as the lecturer. Dr. Stone traced the history of the birth control movement and did a splendid job in showing the progress it has made thus far. Both the attendance and the interest were splendid.

Health

Consciousness

Our members are becoming healthconscious. Demands for articles and for speaking dates are becoming quite numerous. Local 107's "Truck Carrier" carried an article by us on the need for sickness insurance in particular and on preventive medicine in general—Local 22's "Record" also gave us space in which to have our say. I hope the members will take heed of our advice.

Julius Kruger
Dies

I don't know how many of our members knew Julius. He was a member, Local 117 for many, many years. But he was not of the type that is seen on speakers' platforms. Nor did he serve in the capacity of a leader. He was just one of the rank and file. But he was a patient. In spite of his illness, he was always cheerful and friendly. He thought a great deal of the Union Health Center, and was grateful to its physicians who kept him going all these years. For he was a very sick man. Had he the means to live in peace and privacy, he might have lingered on for quite a while longer, for he was only 49 years old. In his death, the Union Health Center has lost a friend. We mourn our loss.

ILGWU

Sports in Review

By Milt Spiro

SPIRIT OF THE LABOR UNION ATHLETE

When the day is done, and our mind is at ease,
We turn to play at games that please.
Baseball, basketball, swimming and gym
Are provided by our Union to suit every whim.

As we romp and play our cares and worries go,
For sports and recreation make our bodies grow.
And when they are over, one feels such health
That has no price, and supercedes all wealth.

'Tis a shame that more workers can't see the light
And partake of such pleasures that help us to fight.
For clear minds and strong bodies 'neath our flag unfurled,
Will help us to march on to our brave new workers' world.
* * * Elmes * * *

Local 102 Wins Havana Trip Contest

A certain newspaper publisher whose initials are W.R.H. (don't tell) must be gnashing his teeth at the thought of his having to stand the expense of a full week's trip to Havana, Cuba, by Local 102's crack basketball team, totaling thirteen people including the manager, trainer and secretary of the team.

What started out as just another way of getting practice games for the team innocently wound up in the aforesaid trip, and if you had told Marty Cohen, the coach, that they would be Havana bound on Wednesday, March 2, he would have, but silently, thought you were a bit subject for the outhouse. In addition to Coach Marty Cohen, the following made the trip: Rudy Blachor, Herb Geyron, Morris Weisman, Isay Prieser, Sol and Bob Saperstein, Cy Laris, Chuck Fenner, Abe Rothman, Howard Rothstein, Harry Sherman, and Leks Silein.

Local 60 Athletic Dept. Holds Dinner

One of the most highly successful and efficiently organized local athletic departments in the ILGWU, Local 60, held their second annual dinner at Gottlieb's Restaurant, on Wednesday, February 24. With more than 125 guests in attendance, the department presented to Manager Max Cohen and President Isidore Waskevsky miniature trophy in appreciation of their help in building up the Athletic Department to its present prominence.

Harry Jackman, local athletic director, acted as toastmaster for the occasion, and introduced the directors of all the sports units, who gave a synopsis of the past year's work and their plans for the future.

New York Basketball League Draw to Close

By virtue of a 16-10 victory that they scored over Local 59 Williamsburg girls' five, Local 91 moved ahead of the closest rivals in the fight for the League A girls' championship.

The completion of the League B

girls remains the same, with Local 22 still unbeaten, although being hard pressed by several teams who were costly taken into camp in earlier games.

With the final games of the season being played on March 20, the game booked between Locals 10 and 102 on the above date will go a long way to determine the ultimate winner of League B men's class. Local 102 already owns a decisive victory over the cutters, and the worst they can get is a tie if they lose. Should the Truck drivers win, they became the winners of League A.

Local 10, Williamsburg, well have clinched the League B honors for some time already, and are just keeping in good condition in anticipation of their clash with either Local 10 or Local 102.

Soccer Boys and Bounces

After several weeks of play, the Soccer League fight is as wide open as it was when it started, with four teams having an equal chance to come home in front. The teams in a contending position are Locals 10, 60, 116 and 131.

During the next three weeks, these teams play return engagements, and when the results of these games are added to the present standing, some one team should take a favorable position in point scoring.

Every team has been beaten at least once, and in every case it happened that each team was beaten by a local which had succeeded to them earlier in the season.

ILGWU Basketball League Presents at Stuyvesant High School Gym

15th Street and First Avenue
Saturday, March 20, 1937

Local Local
3:00 P.M. 22 vs. 40 girls
4:00 P.M. 62 vs. 39 W. girls
5:00 P.M. 91 vs. 89 Bx. girls
6:00 P.M. 32 vs. 39 L. girls
7:30 P.M. 40 vs. 125 men
9:00 P.M. 10 vs. 102 men

Dancing Before and After Last Game

Admission by basketball season pass or 25 cents at the door.

Neither Clubs Nor Thugs Daunt These Dallas Pickets



STRIKE
SHEER RAIN
FLOOD PICKET
IN BRUSH
STANDARD OILS

Out-of-Town Sports News

Connecticut

Ann Rytan, Connecticut educational director, reports that the basketball games and dance held in New Haven on February 27 were both a social and financial success with more than 400 people attending.

In the girls' game the New Haven team vanquished the New Rochelle girls by a score of 10 to 8, but the New Rochelle men evaded the count when they gave the New Haven five a 21-15 shellacking.

On March 2 a doubleheader was played between the New Haven and Bridgeport teams in Bridgeport, and again the teams split even. The Bridgeport girls bowed to the New Haven team for the second time by an 11 to 6 score, but the count was balanced when the Bridgeport men took the long end of a 24 to 19 score.

With games scheduled in Bridgeport on March 2, Stamford on March 15, and New Haven on March 17, the Connecticut and Westchester Basketball League will wind up its season.

Sectional play-offs between New Jersey and Connecticut are tentatively set for either April 2 or 10 in New York.

Pennsylvania

We learn from Mort Goodman, educational director of the Philadelphia Garment Workers, that Local 11 has played a series of six basketball games, and has come out on top on every occasion.

The team is shooting at the ILGWU basketball championship which they lost the New York cutters last year, but feel confident that they can do better the next time.

New Jersey

The New Jersey basketball season drew the curtains on a very successful basketball season with two games played at Passaic on March 13.

In the girls' division, Local 150 South River, swept through their schedule without a defeat, and automatically became eligible for the sectional playoffs.

Local 145, Passaic, were the winners in the men's league, and although their victories were not as decisive as the girls' champs, they proved themselves quite the class of the league.

LABOR at the PLAY

By Irwin Swardlow

The Theatre Union Presents "Marching Song"

By John Howard Lawson
Bayle Theatre
Legend has it that John Dux Panko, Mr. Lawson's comrade in the ambulance service on the French and Italian fronts for two years during the World War, first suggested the introduction of a jazz band into serious drama. Acting upon this recommendation, the story goes on to relate, John Howard Lawson wrote "Procrustian," which, when produced by the Theatre Guild, precipitated a veritable cascade among its subscribers. His political satire, "Loudspeaker," proved sure to the hasty New Playwrights Theatre, the sets alone for this production costing thirty-five thousand dollars, and leaving the Playwrights Theatre enough lumber for their next half-dozen presentations.

It was under conditions similar to those of "Marching Song" that I served as an apprenticeship under John Howard Lawson at the New Playwrights Theatre. In 1927 we were doing Paul Sifton's "The Bell," which was an attack against the speed-up methods at the Ford plant in Detroit. The last scene depicted the workers breaking the machines, and we needed some automobile parts to toss to the audience for souvenirs. Several days before the opening, on a rainy windy morning, news reached me that a model T Ford had dropped dead on a nearby lot. Mr. Lawson was modestly moping the floor of the Gentlemen's room at the theatre when the glad tidings were brought, but he dropped everything and seizing a hammer, wrench and fire bucket, immediately led an excavating expedition to the lot. It was in this fashion that authentic properties were secured to finish the teeth of New Playwrights Theatre audiences. I think Mr. Lawson may have derived the idea for "Marching Song" that morose whilst dissembling the cadaver of the ancient automobile on that wet, wind-swept lot.

Levity aside, however, "Marching Song" is the most satisfactory Theatre Union production to date. Mr. Lawson, it need a Eugene O'Neill, is nevertheless a craftsman who knows where to take a play. The Theatre Union, too, has matured; its casting is more experienced; Howard Bayle designs a setting that is conspicuous for its clarity and effectiveness; and Anthony Brown directs in a manner calculated to express all the dramatic values inherent in the play.

An abandoned factory on the outskirts of Brimington is the scene of "Marching Song." Thence John and Peter Russell repair when their house is foreclosed on them. Peter is a blacklisted worker, with a long history of union defeat behind him. Profoundly despondent, he is resigned to liberating with his wife and child in the abandoned factory. But the union won't stand still. Bill Anderson, a union organizer, enters the town through the back door and starts things moving again. He even makes an issue of Pete Russell's case. And so the employers fall back upon the police and when these prove inadequate, they contact the gangsters. Now, it seems to be a moral that when future triumphs, it has already prepared the way for its own downfall—at least that is true for this country. The gangsters clean up the town in "Marching Song," but even machine-guns get sore throats when the entire population of a large American city starts marching.

John Howard Lawson recently wrote a book on playwriting. Too frequently such polemics smother the death knell, creatively speaking, of their author. In "Marching Song" Lawson establishes his mastery. Any one who can write a play as good as this has a right to teach others.

There is a social stratum in this play which is of enormous interest. They are known as transients and represent the frayed edge of the proletariat; these Mr. Lawson weaves into his play as a sort of Greek chorus.

As Pete Russell, Grover Burgess gives the best performance of his career. Docked of neurotic and hysterical overacting, Grover Burgess is an invaluable member of the labor stage. Curt Conway, a Huckleberry Finn of industrial America, and Stanley G. Wood, as representative of American police intelligence, were deliciously funny in a genre of comedy which is as old as the theatre itself. This is the Theatre Union production everybody has been waiting for.

"Prisoners" Came

"Prisoners" is in a sense a reply to the embarking accusations levelled against the Soviet government these days. A Soviet prison camp offers a variety of types. Landlith thieves, murderers, and industrial saboteurs. All but the last are of course your misbegotten children, who haven't awakened to the fact that there has been a revolution in Russia. The solution to crime, this picture holds, is to put criminals to work. Fill them with post-revolution pride in what they are doing and their rehabilitation is assured. If all the criminals are depicted as delinquent children, all the industrial saboteurs are top-heavy intellectuals who suffer from mental irritations. A dam is constructed, wherein an intellectual engineer finds that there is more happiness in work than in politics, and learns to appreciate the wisdom of leaving politics to party members.

Stallan's portrait appears in every theatre shot and perhaps the film is somewhat naive in its approach, but there are a flavor and artistry about Soviet movies which still makes them completely enjoyable.

ask! I'm sitting in the bottom of something.

UNION MAN

by J. Griswold

OUT OF MY WAY, NIPPON, I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS —



I H'ADVISE YOU, SIR, TO MAKE YOUR DEPARTURE H'AT ONCE. 'TAT 'M UNION DUTYMAN MEANS 'WABSOLUTLY NOTHINK 'ERE, SIR. H'ABSOLUTELY NOTHINK!



SAY I'M GREAT GRAND DAD FOUGHT YOU RED COATS. I TELL YOU I'M GOING TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.



'THE H'IMPUDENCE OF THESE H'AMERICANS.



..In Eastern Cotton Garment Area..

By Elias Raisberg, V.P.
Director Cotton Dress &
Miscellaneous Trades Dept.

At a meeting held by the Miscellaneous Trades Council, four weeks ago, at which President Dubinsky was present, a decision was made to redouble the activities in the Cotton Garment Department for the Spring season.

Too Firm, Come, Quickly To Terms

The staff of the union have brought important results. A strike was called in Pockville, Pa. on February 23, where 15 workers were employed on cotton dresses under very poor work conditions—low wages and very long hours. The strike, which was very effective, was conducted by Organizers Schindler, Woods and Sol Greene. As a result, the employer, the Kay Press Company, settled with the ILGWU on February 25, just two days of intensive activity and picketing brought a closed union shop and regulated work-hours at 40 per week and minimums to conform with those existing in the cotton garment industry.

Another settlement has been effected, without a strike, with the most important contractor in Pennsylvania, the Press Dress Corporation in Hummelstown, Pa., employing 400 people. For a number of years this firm had been regarded as the stumbling block in organizing the cotton garments shops. Whenever approaches were made to negotiate a settlement without a strike, the contractor would point to the Press Dress Corporation. The argument always advanced was, "If the Press Dress Corporation will settle, we will." For years, the Press Dress Corporation has been the most important contractor of cotton dresses in Pennsylvania. It took the writer four weeks of negotiations, at intervals in New York and in Harrisburg, before we succeeded, last Thursday, in effecting an agreement containing closed union-shop provision, a 10 per cent increase in wages, and the 40-hour work week. In the negotiations with Morris Press of the Press Dress Corporation, the writer was assisted by Brother David Ginzburg, supervisor of Eastern Pennsylvania.

In Two Other Penna. Cities

In Mahanoy City, Pa., a strike was called on February 27 against Janowski Bros., employing 150 people on cotton dresses. All the workers responded to the call of the Union. The result was that on the same day a settlement was made with the International on a 37 1/2 hour work week, also establishing a price commission, this being a piece-work shop, to settle prices. This strike was called and conducted by Brother Michael Johnson.

Scranton District Council Stages Big Rally for ILGWU Chief



Bottom Row, Left to Right: Harry Schindler, Elias Raisberg, David Dubinsky, David Ginzgold. 2nd Row: Rita Ward, Stella Podgorski, Gertrude Barnack, Belle Scherage, Anne Landy. 3rd Row: Stanley Stepelievich, Blanche Baltruski, Sophie Swartz, Stella Martin, Oscar Russekoff. Top Row (Disregard First Figure): Madeline Bocchini, Philip Flig, May Chase, William Yushinkas.

We are now conducting a strike against the Bonal Sportswear, Auburn, Pa., a "runaway" knickerbocker shop from New York. The strike is in its second week. All efforts of the township administration to break down the morale of the strikers have failed them nothing and the strike is in splendid shape. The activities of the picketers are being helped by the union shops from nearby Shenandoah under the leadership of Sister Feigel Levine. This activity was so effective that the firm, on the advice of the township council, closed down the plant as only a handful of strike-breakers remained in the shop.

Another settlement was effected without a strike in Trenton, N. J., with the Sanny Dress & Blouse Co., employing 50 people. This settlement calls for conditions prevailing in union blouse shops in New York, i.e., 13 hours, minimum salaries and a union shop.

Arbitration Brings Fair Settlement

Central Falls, R. I., goes on the map this week. In some former lanes of "justice" it has been reported that in Central Falls, R. I., 100 cotton dress workers had gone out on strike against the Sedlis Mfg. Co. of Boston, which has a subsidiary shop in Central Falls. The strike lasted six weeks. Two weeks ago Saturday, through the intervention of Miss Anna Weinstein of the Federal Conciliation

Department, a conference was held by the writer and Organizer Jack Halpern, of Boston, with the firm at its Boston office. At the same time, the Mayor and City Council of Central Falls called a hearing for Saturday afternoon, February 27, 1937. Brother William Rose represented the Union, at that hearing. As a result of that hearing which lasted several hours, it

was agreed that the entire controversy should be settled by the State Labor Department of Rhode Island. The director of the State Labor Department is Thomas F. McMahon, former president of the United Textile Workers. The hearing was held on March 5, 1937, with Mr. Sedlis and Mr. McMahon representing the firm, and Brother William Rose for the Union. The

The Massachusetts State Board of Conciliation recently called in both sides for a hearing. The Union was represented by Brother Halpern. As a result of the hearing, the shop was unionized and the workers were awarded an increase in wages by the State Board.

President Dubinsky in Scranton, Pa.

For quite some time, persistent requests have been coming in from district councils and single locals of the Cotton Garment Department asking that President Dubinsky visit and address them. The department also has been anxious for President Dubinsky to come and see for himself the things accomplished in the last year, yielding to those requests, President Dubinsky made his first visit to Scranton on February 23. The entire Scranton membership turned out including members from nearby Lehigh Valley, Wilkes-Barre and from Dixon City and Schuylkill who came in special buses to see him.

Casino Hall, where the meeting was held, accommodated 1,500 people. The hall was so crowded with our members and ministers from other unions that a great number had to be turned away. The meeting was an excellent one. Brother Ginzgold was the chairman and the speakers included Brother Ginzgold, president of District No. 3, of the United Mine Workers of America, and the writer. The meeting number was filed not only with facts and data about the growth and progress of our International Union but was also accompanied by a warm message to the workers to hold the line firm and to conduct themselves as true and loyal members of the ILGWU. His address was received with endless cheering. The union shops in Scranton and in the vicinity presented him with baskets of flowers.

Since then a number of requests from other cities and towns in Pennsylvania have been received by this office asking that President Dubinsky visit their localities.

It was an unforgettable evening—it was evident that the workers were proud of the place of the sweatshop and granted to the Union for what it has achieved for them.

Union Girls in Small Massachusetts Town



Strikers of Northbrookfield Manufacturing Co., Cotton Firm, Halt Delivery of Goods Made by Strikebreakers.

A Union Barn Dance Out Shamokin Way



Members of Local 185 Celebrating 100 Per Cent Standing of Their Compaq Little Organization At Costume Dance Party on February 19; Organizer Feigel Levine Seen At Extreme Right Front Row.

Have You Got Your Copy Of The Handbook?

Education

Mother Goose Color Contest Closes April 1

Film Strips Aid Classes

In addition to the movie films which involve a fairly high cost, we are now utilizing the film strip. A small projector which can be easily carried in a case covers six inches and a spring screen, which is as easy to carry as an umbrella, are all the apparatus necessary. The pictures, of course, are static, but that is more suitable for class work than the moving picture. The films can be carried in the vest pocket. The complete equipment, with four or five film strips, can be obtained for forty dollars.

We have obtained from the National Council of Labor Colleges in England the following films: Evolution (45 pictures), The French Revolution (44 pictures), The History of the Modern British Workers (75 pictures), The Russian Revolution (55 pictures), The Story of Trade Unions (72 pictures), War Against War (52 pictures), The Abyssinian Question (50 pictures). We have obtained through the United States Department of Agriculture the following: Seeing Washington (70 pictures), Film Strips and Their Preparation (48 pictures), Food Makes A Difference (42 pictures), Good Posture for Health and Beauty Among Women and Girls (54 pictures), Dead End Explosions in Industrial Plants (54 pictures).

While in Flint, Vice-President Julius Hochman collected 60 pictures which were made available by the Joint Board in a film strip dealing with the epic conflict of the slowdown against GMAC. Of course, we want film strips that will meet more particularly the needs of our own classes and so the Educational Committee has sanctioned the creation of an ILGWU film strip. The first section of this will deal with the evolution of the garment industry starting with the first of Eve and finishing with the modern machine crowned with the crocodile curls. The second section will deal with the evolution of the tools used—the Sabbath knife becoming the modern dress operator's machine; the presser's iron heated by coals and gas and electricity; the cutter's shears, the circular and vertical knife. The third section will picture all the phases of the present wide-ranging activity of the Union. When this film strip is finished, we shall be able to supply copies at a very low price to all our locals and we anticipate a picture boom in the use of pictorial presentation.

Luncheon Get-Together Of Students and Teachers

On Saturday, April 30, 12:30 P.M., our students and teachers will have a luncheon reunion at the Center Hotel, 165 West 43rd Street, N.Y.C. This will be under the auspices of the ILGWU Student Fellowship. We expect many educators who were connected with our Department during the last twenty years. The motion picture of the ILGWU Student Fellowship in action which is now being completed will be shown for the first time at this luncheon.

Those who wish to attend should make reservations immediately with Nettie Minkes, Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, Watkins 5-6365.

Visits to Points of Interest

March 20, 2 P.M.—Brooklyn Museum, Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, N.Y. Direction: IRT East Side Subway to Eastern Parkway. Group meets in lobby.

March 27, 2 P.M.—The Cloister, 698 Ft. Washington Ave., N.Y.C. Direction: 8th Ave. Subway to 190th St. Group meets in lobby.

April 3, 2 P.M.—Historical Society, Central Park West (77th St.), N.Y.C. Group meets in lobby.

April 10, 2 P.M.—Poe Cottage, Kingsbridge Road and Grand Boulevard, Bronx. Direction: Jerome Ave. Subway to Kingsbridge Station. Group meets in lobby.

West Harlem Dance and Social

Our members who attend the West Harlem Social and Educational Center of the ILGWU will have a dance and entertainment on Friday, April 2, at the Harlem Labor Center, 212 West 125th Street, N.Y.C. An interesting program has been prepared. This will consist of a puppet—a dramatization of our song to which the entire audience will join—and dancing to the strains of an inspiring orchestra.

The students' council of the Center has arranged the entertainment. Tickets are only 15c to cover the expense of the music. Tickets can be obtained at Harlem Labor Center, and Educational Department of our International, 3 West 16th St., N.Y.C.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT
Mark Starr, Director
Fannie M. Cohn, Secretary
Louis Schaffer, Supervisor
Cultural and Recreation Division

HERE AND THERE

Quakertown, Pennsylvania, reports well attended meetings with lecture by William Duffy on "Industrial and Craft Unionism," and movies of the Reading History strike.

San Francisco is using its chorus, under Arnet Amos, for broad-casting work against the anti-picketing ordinances.

Dallas benefited greatly from the visits of Dr. Edward Lindeman and Jessie Holmes. Sam White continues the swell job of educating the local universities concerning the principles of trade unionism.

Local 62 has given us some appreciated publicity for our forum and has joined those who broadcast regularly over WEVD.

Both St. Louis and Milwaukee have working group plays in order to dramatize the operation of a sick fund and also the work of the price committee. Send for their playlets if you are interested.

"The Guardian" of the Twin Cities Joint Board, took "The House That Jack Built" from our "Mother Goose" booklet and put it into pictures.

South River, with its usual good taste, improved upon our "Match Stick Men" in its drawings for "Ten Little Sweaty Shaps."

Local 185 now has its own special mimeographed journal with some good lively gossip and pictures.

Poughkeepsie and Troy under the competent guidance of Sister Belsky are running three successful classes in sex hygiene.

OUR EXHIBITIONS

The Educational Department has assisted in arranging two exhibitions of paintings and etchings. These pictures were obtained from the WPA Art Project and can now be seen at Local 32, 95 Park Avenue, N.Y.C., and at Local 54, 2 West 16th Street, N.Y.C.

Exhibits for Convention

The Atlantic City Convention will be notable for many things and especially for the exhibition which will indicate the extent and variety of the educational and cultural work now carried on by the ILGWU. Competition is becoming fierce in the coloring of "Mother Goose Goes Union" and we want our various youth groups and educational directors that the closing date is April 1, which will give adequate time for the judges to do their work.

In addition to putting "Mother Goose" on display, we shall also offer a prize for the best local mimeographed journal issued within the last two years and a second prize for the best set of six journals issued in the same period. The copies submitted for this competition must be definitely named by April 15. We are asking outstanding journalists and experts to serve as judges.

YOUTH IN THE OLDEST LOCAL

The two children's parties arranged in Coney Island and in Brewster by Local 117 and the Education Department were unique sights. In both instances, the program was given by children. The children's models exhibited at Local 117 gave a marvellous exhibition of the accomplishments of our Cultural Department. They inspired the audience with their playing. Folk dancing and the play presented by the Pioneer Youth children's group were enthusiastically received. The audience consisted of the children of our members who were accompanied by their parents. Both groups enjoyed the entertainment.

The Pioneer Youth children showed that they could do both serious and humorous plays. They presented "Take My Stand," a serious play, and "Connie Conscience's Saviors," a farce. The speakers, in short talks, pointed out to the children the achievements of the Union which their parents helped to build and to which they still belong.

Fellowship Movie

A motion picture record of the ILGWU Fellowship in action is now being completed by our Educational Department. A detailed description of the 12 episodes of this picture will appear in a later issue of "Justice."

Babies By Choice

Dr. Hannah M. Stancu, who with Margaret Sanger has championed birth control to its present high status of scientific acceptance and friendly publicity after years of persecution and prejudice, was warmly listened to at our forum on February 11. Her title was "Babies by Choice or by Choice?" She briefly described the primitive attempts to control population by abortion and infanticide. When reproduction is separated from other factors in sex life there are greater opportunities for personal improvement and betterment," she said, pointing out that a proper spacing of children is desirable for both the mother's health and the well-being of the offspring. "During the last 25 years a complete revolution has taken place in the public attitude. Birth control is now discussed freely from platform and pulpit. Postal and customs laws which treated information about it as law and obscenity are now being altered. Twenty years ago the little that doctors themselves had, now it is a permitted subject for courses in medical colleges and important researches are being made to determine its methods and effects. A recent judicial decision establishing the right of physicians to give information to secure the well-being of their patients.

There are now 100 clinics in the United States. While the State law in Connecticut made the use of any form of contraceptive liable to a \$10 penalty, the birth rate there was falling faster than in the other States. The problem is to continue to develop a sane and intelligent outlook regarding the planning of population and to continue the development of safe methods.

TRADE UNION SERVICE

Our class on Monday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 P.M., still keeps up in attendance and interest. The talk by President Irishinsky on "The Negotiation and Enforcement of Agreements" has been mimeographed and sent to all our locals as plan was "Structure and Problems of the Cotton Division," by Vice-President Elias Bersberg. On February 1, the film strip showing the Detroit sit-downs was shown and the sit-down tactics discussed. We have studied the literature used by SWOC.

Our naturalization aid classes are small but are doing intensive work four nights weekly.

Ideas for Advancing America

ILGWU WEEKLY LECTURE SERIES

January-March 1937

Mar. 18, 8 P.M., Plan of Plenty

Harold Loeb, Director National Survey of Potential Productivity.

Mar. 25, 8 P.M., The Worker and Civil Liberties

Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes, Columnist and Author

MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE

311 WEST 34TH STREET (8th Avenue) 6th Floor
New York City

FREE TO ILGWU MEMBERS; ADMISSION BY UNION CARD

Others 50c per lecture; \$5 for complete course



HAROLD LOEB, graduate of Princeton University, has lectured before the Taylor Society, Columbia, Yale, Engineers' clubs, etc.; thoroughly grounded in economics and business practice; an effective public speaker.



HARRY ELMER BARNES, newspaper columnist; authority on world politics, sociology, historian and criminologist; author of "Living in the Twentieth Century," and many other books.

March 18th Set for Local 91 Elections

By Harry Greener, V.-P.
Manager Local 91

Thousands of members of Local 91 will flock to three special polling places on March 18 to ballot for officers of the Union, a new Executive Board, and delegates to the convention of the ILGWU in Atlantic City. Many thousands of these voters are newcomers to the Union, and will be exercising their suffrage for the first time.

From early morning until late at night on Thursday, March 18, the headquarters of the Union, the Auditorium of the Rand School, and Webster Hall will be the scene of the balloting. A special election objections committee of fifteen members will supervise the conduct of the voting and tabulate the final results.

Sixty candidates will be running for positions on the Executive Board soon to be vacated. A large number of contestants for the post of delegate to the convention promises to make the race for the right advocate, awarded to this local on the basis of a census of our membership, extremely close.

Cracking Down On The Cheaters

The organization campaign during the first two weeks in January, which resulted in Local 91, has been temporarily suspended in an effort to wipe out cheating by union manufacturers. It was discovered that a number of jobbers were discharging their work to non-union contractors in local and out-of-town areas. When all peaceful attempts to correct this clear violation of existing contractual agreements failed, strikes were called against the violators.

The firms of Mos Schwartz and I. Schwartz buckled under the determined pressure of the Union, but more stubborn resistance was encountered from Fashion and Lee-Lee. For almost five weeks these manufacturers held out against a walkout which paralyzed manufacture in New York and adjacent cities. However, the employers yielded to the demands of the Union and a satisfactory settlement was reached on March 2.

Eleven Sign

The cooperation of the Out-of-Town Department and the cutters of Local 10 did much to relieve the burden borne by this Union. In all fairness, it should be pointed out that the splendid spirit and determination of the girls of Local 51 were the real cause of the victory. These women picketed for more than four weeks in some of the most miserable weather New York has seen this Winter. But wind and rain did not seem to dampen their ardor.

The cheaters have not been completely eliminated. Toward the end the Union is devising its plan of future efforts. Four shops, U-Wan-A, Libby, Dave Schwartz, and S. Weeder, are still on strike. Close cooperation with Local 19

and the Out-of-Town Department of the International should bring these non-union shops in line before long.

Meanwhile, the intensive organization drive is beginning to swing along again. We are able to report settlements in the following strikes: Altkrug & Halper, David Silka, Enkel Procks, Grace Dress and Apron, Koyvinsky Sportswear, P. & G. Sportwear, Perfect West, Novesty, T. & S. Sportwear, S. & L. Dress Co. and Arnold Dress Co.

S. L. Hoffman Agreement Renewed

The firm of S. L. Hoffman, employing four hundred fifty persons, is also listed on our settlement list. The expiration of the previous contract brought an immediate demand for a general scale in wage and hour standards from Mr. Hoffman. On his refusal to consider any terms not involving a serious reduction of wage minimums imposed by our former agreement, the Union called a strike.

For six weeks these four hundred fifty workers struck against a return to depression wages. During this period endless conferences and constant litigation failed to bring the dispute to any adjustment acceptable to the Union. Finally, a break-in the deadlock was reached after more than a month of striking, and a complete settlement was made. The new contract was signed at the end of the sixth week of strike action.

Again, the timely intervention of Local 10 relieved a situation which threatened for a time to fall into a protracted deadlock.

AELSON NEW JUVENILE IMPARTIAL CHAIRMAN

Dr. Paul M. Aelson has been named impartial chairman for the children's dress, play suit and general infants' wear industry, covered by the collective agreement between the United Infants' and Children's Wear Association, Class L, and Local 91 and 10 of the ILGWU. Mr. Aelson succeeds the late Dr. Henry L. Moskowitz.

Mr. Aelson has been identified with arbitration work and as an impartial chairman in the needle, millinery and fur trades for many years.

DAVIS DRESS OF PORTLAND, OREGON, ON STRIKE

The Davis Dress Manufacturing Co., which has been on strike for several days as noted, has announced that it is ready to recognize the ILGWU as the employees' bargaining agency.

Negotiations for settlement are now under way with Sam Schatz, representative of the Union. A satisfactory agreement is expected to be reached shortly.

Both hour and wage changes are requested by the Union in addition to recognition.

So. Jersey Happy Over Convention In Home State

By Barnett Karp
Manager So. Jersey Joint Board ILGWU

In covering the big stretch of territory of South Jersey, one comes even in February across large areas of green fields of rye and is about to forget that this is still the Winter season, when, lo and behold, one hears the cry of the crow overhead. Just so it is with our shop. Some are so well organized that they seem to radiate the warmth of Summer. But this spell is soon broken by the entry of another "runaway" shop, and one is reminded that it is still Winter. Low wages are still rampant; young-

South Jersey Cloak and Dress Leaders



Staff of Southern New Jersey Joint Board—Manager Barnett Karp in Center

sters are still smuggled into the shops; the crow still hovers over us.

Within the last few weeks, two such shops were unionized. Our staff is on the trail of the "run-aways," and is usually very close to them. It is amazing to see them and how fast they throw up their hands when caught.

The work-season is not one to boast of. In many of our shops work is just commencing. Despite this condition, it is encouraging to know how well the South Jersey members think of their Union. The cloak industry is gradually disappearing from this field, and the remaining few shops have little work. Nevertheless, our members are faithful to the organization and seem to have more faith in it than ever.

In the midst of all this we are forging ahead. The membership in the dress line is increasing. We have recently opened an office in Bridgeton. We are concentrating most of our energies in that vicinity. We are making a drive for new members and unionization. Some of the shops we are aiming to get are picketed, not by us, but by the police.

It seems that somebody is giving them the "run-around." The police were told that we came from New

"Sit-In" Hastens Coat Contract in Toronto

Trade Now Airtight Union—Work Terms Part of Province Law

By Samuel Kraisman
Manager Toronto Joint Board

The Toronto Cloakmakers' Union renewed in January its collective agreement with the cloak manufacturers without being forced, for the first time in many years, to call the workers out on strike.

Here are the facts: Two months before the agreement expired, we notified the manufacturers that we would like to reach an understanding quickly so

that the Spring season might start on time and the industry might continue normally without any trouble. For a month we heard nothing from them, and one fine morning a leaflet was distributed in the market informing the members of a general meeting in the afternoon of that day to decide on a policy on the matter. It was a case of sit-in, sit-out, sit-out, sit-out.

This was the first strike in December and most of our "people" were idle. During the morning our telephone wires were burning up with calls from the employers claiming that they were misunderstood and that they were ready to confer with us and to reach an agreement. Nevertheless, it took weeks until an agreement was actually concluded. We also had to go through the experience of a brief "sit-in" strike before we were satisfied that the two-year agreement was signed and sealed.

When it became clear to us that the employers were deliberately protracting the conferences, the Union instructed the members not to work. Our people would go into the factories daily for almost two weeks but not a garment was made until the contract was signed.

The new agreement gains some increases for the lower paid crafts. An outstanding change is the introduction of a system of setting piece prices for the work on a "body" basis, beginning the first of July. The purpose of this change is to bring about equality of price in the same category of garments in all shops and it will also change the system in the few shops that still pay piecework on a piece-a-piece-work. This has been one of the Union's objectives for several years.

The last fall season was an unusually bad one. Our people worked part time; there were many unemployed, and the pressure, particularly, there was a bad fall. Local 52, the Pressers' Union, devised a plan of giving work to unemployed day by day in different shops and that plan helped to relieve a good deal of the distress among the unemployed garmenters.

We signed an agreement with jobbers and contractors making it possible for the Union to more stringently check and control any possible violations. We have right of entry to the shops, and to send in auditors to investigate jobbers' books; limitation and designation of contractors is more strictly defined under the contract. Wages are settled with the jobbers on their premises. The jobber is held responsible for wages and is obliged to contribute to the maintenance of the "Code" in the cloak industry. Limitation of contractors has cut the number of contractors to whom the jobber can give work almost in half.

The cloak industry in Toronto is now 100 per cent organized. There is one firm here, the Beaver Cloak Co., which for years managed to evade unionization. Recently, after a concerted drive, we succeeded after a few days of stoppage in wresting an agreement from this firm and this creature in the local market was finally eliminated.

Right now, the union, political parties is holding their breath. Thank goodness, elections come only once every two years, so we can sandwich in some union activity other than politics in the meantime. However, our membership is taking this election very seriously. Now that the Toronto Union has made fine progress under the leadership of a trade union group which has stood resolutely for a straight labor policy, it is more than ever important that able men and women who have been tested and tried in guiding the destinies of the organization should be put into responsible positions.

They Will Pass on Children's Wear Candidates



Alert Group of Union "Character Examiners" Ready to Say Who is Fit for Office in Local 91

PLAY, DANCE, SING, ACT AND STUDY WITH THE UNION

Join Your Classes

Among the Cutters of New York

By Samuel Perlmutter, V.P.
Manager, Local 10

Greetings to Cutters And Other Union Members

I am profoundly happy to greet my fellow members in our International and the members of Local 10 in particular upon my return home after an absence of nine weeks, which were devoted to a mission of surveying the situation of Jewish labor in Palestine, delegated to me and 16 six other colleagues in the labor movement.

I do not intend, at this time, to submit either a full or partial report on the subject of Palestine, except to say that my trip abroad has given me an opportunity to get an inkling as to conditions in Europe and the Orient. On the whole, it was both thrilling and educational.

I intended to come back in time to be present at the nomination meeting on March 1, but my arrangements were broken up as I was obliged to sail on the Berengaria which arrived in New York on the 2nd of March. I was glad, however, to learn that the March 1 meeting was overwhelmingly attended. Which I consider a genuine register of the keen interest of the membership in the affairs of their Union which is so essential to its progress and strength.

As we know, the term of office has been lengthened from one to two years as a result of a resolution adopted in Chicago in 1934. As we are now on the eve of elections for the ensuing term of 1937-41, it would not be amiss to briefly review some events and developments that transpired during the past few years.

The first, and outstanding one, was the destruction of the NRA by the Supreme Court, which wiped out all industrial codes providing for minimum wages and maximum hours and their many other phases which were beneficial to organized labor. Notwithstanding this terrific blow, our International Union and all its affiliated locals have managed not only to maintain standards but, in a good many cases, succeeded in obtaining improved conditions by increasing wages and reducing hours. At this time our International is in a much stronger position than even during the period of NRA, both in numbers and influence.

As for Local 10, I venture to state that it has grown considerably in strength and influence. Neither time nor space permits a chronological report in this column of all the dolga and activities

carried on during the past four years but it would be in place to point out some phases of activity from which thousands of members of Local 10 have benefited greatly. First, our method of control and check-up employed in the industry through the working-card system. Our working-card system is considered to be enforced more rigidly than in any other ILOUWU local anywhere. It is this card which furnishes us with information not only as to the place of employment of our members but also of the earnings and time employed thus indicating their actual annual earnings, an item which is of great importance to the organization.

Philadelphia Firm Organized By Beltmakers

By Henry Schwartz, Manager
Beltmakers' Union, Local 40

After a two weeks' strike, the firm of Edelstein & Son, one of the largest belt jobbers in the East, capitulated and recognized union terms. The strike throughout was militantly conducted and visibly impressed the employers. Starting and ending in a snow storm, mass picket lines were maintained before the factory, morning, noon and evening. The strikers were fed breakfast and lunch in a restaurant directly opposite the plant. The shop was brought to a standstill on the first day of the strike and the 60 workers enrolled in the Union.

At first, the employer maintained he would rather give up his business than recognize the Union. But after the first few days, the strikers' constant picket line made the boss sing a different tune. On a call from Mayor Wilson's Labor Board, Mr. Edelstein, for the firm, Henry Schwartz, Morris Fishman and a committee of strikers, for the Union, met in an attempt to reach a possible solution. Negotiations consumed two entire days, from which the Union emerged victorious. We won a closed union shop, a 40-hour week, a \$13 minimum wage and an equal division of work. For the first time in the 20 years of the firm's existence workers of their shop had union cards in their pockets.

Morris Fishman, of Local 55 in Philadelphia, and Joe Levitsky of the Suitcase Makers' Union, threw the support of their organizations behind the strikers and lent assistance at all times. Charles Schwartz, of Local 48, was the organizer.

Second, the emergency relief fund. It is a fund from which members have received in times of need financial aid; approximately \$100,000 has been already paid out from this fund. This, of course, can best be appreciated by those who receive it when in distress.

Third, old age pension. This problem attracted the attention of the leadership of our local many years ago. This pension system for aged and jobless cutters became an institution in Local 10 about ten years ago and it has operated to the fullest benefit of our older members.

Fourth, the tuberculosis fund, which entitles a member afflicted with this terrible disease to \$300. This fund has gone far in aiding many of these unfortunate either to recover fully, or to help arrest this disease in its earlier stages.

Fifth, our sports activities, for which our younger members had yearned for a long time and which now have been in force since the year end of 1934. This branch of activity has also been crowned with success. As we go over the sport records in which so many ILOUWU locals participated, we find that basketball, baseball and soccer are three of the main sports in which our groups have excelled since we launched them in Local 10.

Sixth, educational activities under the supervision of Brothers Joe Abramowitz, Max Falkman and Sol Moss, are another feature which deserves attention. Our classes in Sociology, Economics and Political Problems, Labor History, etc., draw many of our young members and interest in these subjects is growing by leaps and bounds.

Seventh, our dramatic and singing groups are among the best in our International. This is a belief shared by many followers of these arts and recounted in the widest ILOUWU circles.

There are many other types of activities to which we can refer, but the above should be sufficient to prove that our local is teeming with life as befits a militant labor organization.

Last, but not least, is our organization department which is charged with the duty of controlling union standards provided for in our various agreements. Notwithstanding that the local's membership is scattered throughout New York and vicinity, we can boast of a control equalled by very few in the labor movement.

I say this without fear of challenge. This is made possible through the efficient management of the organization department, a work to which the rank and file

give wholehearted support mainly voluntarily.

Our rank-and-file committees for Saturday patrol are staffed by hundreds of cutters who by now have come to accept this task as a mandatory duty on their part backed up by a discipline which has grown up through years of constant effort.

It is in view of these facts that I now wish to extend, in the name of the entire administration, gratitude and appreciation for the undivided support which Local 10 has received from the vast majority of the membership in making this control work as effective as it is.

Record-Breaking Poll Expected

In view of the expansion of the term of office from one to two years, it should be the duty of each and every member to cast his vote on election day, and to register his voice with regard to the men to be chosen to administer the local's affairs for 1937-41.

Judging by the list of nominees, this election will be the greatest contest in the history of Local 10. Approximately 350 have declared their intentions to run for the different offices. That in itself should be a great stimulant to bring out the masses of our members to vote. This election will be the most important in many years because the members will be also required to vote for delegates to the 23rd convention of the International

ATTENTION! Members of Local 10

A Regular Membership and Good and Welfare Meeting will be held on
Monday, March 15, 1937
in
ARLINGTON HALL,
23 St. Mark's Place
at 7:30 P.M. sharp
Each and every member is urged to attend this meeting without fail.

which will take place in Atlantic City, N. J., on Monday, May 3, 1937, N. J., Monday, May 5, 1937.

The Executive Board, in order to make certain the participation of each and every eligible member at the polls, will levy a fine of from \$3 to \$5 on anyone who will fail to cast his vote on election day.

The polls will be open from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Although the seasons in the cloak and dress industries were not very encouraging in the early part of the year, the last few weeks were quite satisfactory. The unusually small number of members appearing for relief—only 5 cloak members, 15 miscellaneous and about 25 dress men have asked for financial aid in the past two weeks,—substantiates this fact.

In order to obtain the exact number of unemployed another check-up, as usual, will be made in the next few weeks, which, of course, will be reported in these columns.

Local 10, Attention!

Election of Officers
For the Term of 1937-8

will take place on
Saturday, March 20, 1937

at
ARLINGTON HALL
23 St. Mark's Place, New York City

The polls will be open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.
Come without fail and bring your dues book with you.

A FOR SALE AT ALL TOBACCO
STANDS AND CIGAR STORES



**UNION-MADE
CIGARETTE**

Avalon

MADE BY UNION WORKERS
UNDER UNION LABOR TERMS

TUNE IN EACH FRIDAY NIGHT
At 10:30

FOR LABOR NEWS

Broadcast Over Station WEVD (1300 kc)
AND EASTERN NETWORK
By Chester M. Wright

A Product of
Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp.
Louisville, Kentucky

Beltmakers Carry First Big Philadelphia Shop



...EDITORIAL NOTES...

Ballyhoo De Luxe, Or Smoke Screen?

The Cloak Joint Board of New York elected the other day a conference committee to negotiate a renewal of the collective agreements in the coat and suit industry which are to expire on June 1. Actual parleys will, therefore, begin at an early date.

The Union wants changes in the work terms of the collective pact. It has notified the employers' associations in general, and brief, terms. When the time comes, the Union will place its demands before employers, in full view of the entire industry. Such has been the practice in agreement negotiations between the workers' and employers' sides in the coat and suit industry, our oldest collective bargaining group, for years and years back.

All the more is, therefore, surprising the prolific barrage which the Industrial Council, the "inside" manufacturers' association, has hung up on the forthcoming conferences with the Union. It started off with a claim that the Union was planning to force the coat and suit manufacturers into a "secret" confab and a secret pact, arrived at through "star chamber" procedure, and wound up with a resplendent and exhaustingly long epistle concerning the "state of the union and of the industry," and stressing "vision," "cooperation," "constructive programs," and a "basis for discussion" that fairly squirts sweet reasonableness in every direction.

There is not a cynical hair in our head—but why, ask we, all this advance ballyhoo on the part of the letter-writers of the Industrial Council,—why this rather unique, or shall we say, quite uncalled for, technique of airing grievances and sounding alarms and excursions in the press on the eve of negotiations which, by their tenor and substance, might well be of a realistic, matter-of-fact character, shorn of such grandiloquent embroidery as "a nation confronted by emergency" which adorns every paragraph of the manufacturers' epistle?

We say again, we are not inclined to be suspicious, but somehow this appeal on the part of the Industrial Council, a week or two before the negotiations are to begin, to "blaze another trail in enlightened labor philosophy," does not sit well with us. It sounds too apophoric to be accepted at face value. The only emergency, in all reality, of which we can think at the present hour in the life of this industry is the emergency of inadequate earnings of the men and women who toil faithfully and at short seasons in the coat and suit shops and of wages that are entirely outtraced by the alarmingly rising cost of every living commodity.

The Cloakmakers' Union yields priority to no other factor in setting a high value on vision and constructiveness in any attempt to set or amend standards in industry. In fact, if memory serves us right, it was on the workers' side of the fence that the plea for these essential ingredients for building a collective good will was first raised.

We have no doubt that as the contract negotiations in the coat and suit industry begin to unfold themselves there will be time and situation galore for appeal and counter-appeal to vision and constructiveness. When, however, the "party of the second part" makes a startling attempt to monopolize these virtues

a few jumps ahead of the conference table, we should be excused if we are prone to look for the shadow of an Ethiopian behind the proverbial log pile.

"Part of A Great Army"

Some time ago, we had an occasion to write about our Local 200 of Cleveland as an unusual group even for such a multi-color organization as the ILGWU. We said at that time that this unique local, concerning which there was much doubting and head-shaking at the time it first saw the light of day, has made good.

You see, Local 200 is made up exclusively of the workers employed in the factories of Printz-Biederman, for a quarter-century prior to 1935 a non-union citadel in the City of Cleveland, who were, besides, for a dozen years members of what may be called a company union. When that local was formed, it was stipulated that it should continue to function apart from the other ILGWU locals in Cleveland, retaining a "self-government" under the auspices of the General Executive Board.

It was a drastic, if not a daring, experiment, and, as we said above, there were many in our midst who refused to believe that it would work out. A former company union group, the argument ran, this outfit, if left to function by itself, could not endure. Time, however, has proved that the faith of the General Executive Board in its policy has been fully justified. Within the framework of the ILGWU, Local 200 has matured in the brief space of a couple of years into an exemplary trade union.

Would you like to listen to what these men and women, who formerly looked askance at labor unions, now say in a little house bulletin issued by Local 200 for its members? We quote:

"It is unfortunate that many people, when they join a union, in many cases expect immediate tremendous improvements. They have lost track of the fact that in our industry conditions, due to the ILGWU, have always been fair. Another important feature is that for twenty-five years the International has been waging battles all over the country and we have reaped without any effort whatever the same benefits as those who were in the trenches suffering and struggling to obtain and maintain our present conditions. . . . We must, therefore, march step by step and shoulder to shoulder with our fellow-members of our great International, as we now are active members of this great army."

"Out the Door, In Through the Window" Approximately, in such terms, one of the leaders in the coat and suit business in Kansas City, Mo., explained the other day the chief cause that has made him change his mind from militant opposition to the ILGWU to acceptance of the work standards and collective bargaining which the Union stands for.

Mr. Brand, of the firm of Brand & Puritz, which signed early this month a union agreement after three years of fighting our Kansas City organization, made this statement in a frank, confessional mood, in the presence of a mixed audience of industry representatives, union leaders and newspaper people, at a dinner given in honor of President Dubinsky's visit to Kansas City. The ILGWU, Mr. Brand said in so many words, when it determines to unionize a market, a trade or an individual firm, will not take NO for an answer. It may be checked for a spell; it may even be licked in the first skirmish, but it's bound to come back and win. Resistance to it, in other words, is futile because it represents the inexorable march of the times, of progress in industry.

With which we, substantially, agree. Except that we should like to add that while Mr. Brand has obviously read a page or two of recent industrial history and has derived a wholesome lesson from it, had he read some chapters of early ILGWU annals, he would have been quick to realize that the element of "bulldozing tenacity" has not been, in the final analysis, uppermost in deciding battles and encounters in favor of the Union. Rather it has been the sane and realistic approach of the Union to industry, work conditions and employer-employee relations, on one hand, and the idealism and probity in which it has trained the mass of the workers and leaders belonging to it, on the other. Such organizational elements breed loyalty and cohesion; they are, indeed, invincible.

Another "Killin'" For the Child-Sweaters



"NRA Babies" Are No More

Elsewhere in this issue, in a section devoted to news emanating from the "Little International," the territory which covers dress and cloak production in New Jersey, Connecticut and Up-State New York, Vice-President Harry Wander, the manager of that farflung department, speaks with a glowing warmth about the pre-election bustle and bustle which have set a myriad of pots a-boiling in the forty-odd locals which work under his jurisdiction.

Elections and referenda, of course, though lively and boisterous at times, are neither novel nor touched with special drama in the older units in the larger centers of the ILGWU. To the locals within the "Little International," and for that matter to the scores of other locals which have seen the light of the trade union world only since the Chicago Convention in 1934, an International convention is a stellar event of rare magnitude and a delegate's seat is a plum to be ardently sought.

This, however, is by far not all. In 1934, the dozens of locals from the smaller towns in New Jersey, Connecticut and New York, as Brother Wander correctly points out, came to the Chicago Convention by virtue of elections which were hardly more than nominal and with a trade union training barely above the kindergarten grade. Today, these tens of thousands of workers have left their "NRA baby" days far behind; today, these locals are compact, well-governed, responsive union groups who know their place in the ILGWU and who are eager to take part in legislating for the entire body of the Union at its convention.

"Sitting Down" In Garment Shops

From Detroit, the wires brought the other day the news that several hundred girls employed in a non-union corset factory had "gone into" a sit-down strike.

This piece of news has given rise to a renewal of a discussion, which has recently been stirring, in a mild way, union circles in the garment industry, namely—Would "sit-down" tactics prove workable in any important dispute in the needle trades shops?

There is a side which argues that the "sit-down" technique runs counter to the psychology of our workers and their time-hallowed fighting methods. They say, for example, that a garment strike must be fought out on the sidewalks in front of the factory and not behind shop walls. And, besides, it is pointed out, it would be relatively easy for employers, with the aid of the police, to starve out the "sit-downers" from the tall, well-guarded garment buildings.

On the other side, the demurrer runs, the "sit-down" method originally has come from the garment industry. In support of this are cited the "stoppages" which took place in coat and suit factories over a score of years, and the "folded arms" strikes in the New York dress shops are analyzed as the forerunners of the "sit-down" technique. Yet, it would seem that, as far as the garment shops are concerned, the "walker-outs" have a good bit of an edge on the "sit-downers." The old method having proved quite effective, it would seem quite risky, if not irrational, for us to play, with experiments.

"Hands Across the Sea"

